

# VALLEY FARMER.

A Monthly Journal of Agriculture, Horticulture, Education and Domestic Economy  
Adapted to the wants of the people of the Mississippi Valley.

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No. 8.

## The Valley Farmer.

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### TERMS.

THE VALLEY FARMER is published on the first of each month, each number containing 48 large octavo pages (including 12 pages devoted to advertisements of matters of interest to farmers,) and is offered at the following rates:—

Single copy, one year, - - - - \$1 00  
Four copies, \$3; seven copies, \$5; Fifteen copies, \$10.

Payments, in all cases, must be made in advance.—Remittances in gold coins, current bank notes, or postage stamps, may be made by mail at our risk.

AGENTS.—Postmasters and Merchants throughout the country are authorized to act as Agents, and every friend of the enterprise is respectfully requested to aid in extending its circulation.

ADVERTISING.—Advertisements are inserted in the ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT of the Valley Farmer at the following rates:—One insertion of 12 lines, \$1; each additional insertion, 50 cents; 12 lines one year \$6; each additional 12 lines one year, \$1; one page, one insertion, \$7; each additional insertion, \$5; one page, yearly, \$50 (ads of six days or less, one year, \$1).

correspondence of the Valley Farmer.

FRANKLIN Co., Mo., July 18, 1852.

*My dear Sir*—Allow me to say that the people are just beginning to wake up to a fullness of their senses, on this subject, (Agriculture.) It is needless to say anything in relation to the fertility of our soil, or the salubrity of our climate, for already the annual premiums on tobacco in St. Louis, speak, at least so far as this article is concerned, Franklin is equal to any county in the State. Again, when you turn your attention to the amount of corn,

wheat, oats, rye, barley, beans, grapes, hops, potatoes, and many other articles, now raised for export, saying nothing of its meadows and grazing fields, with the valuable iron works, now in successful operation, the lead, copper, and valuable mineral resources now developed in the county—with a prospective view of the Railroad—lead us at once to wake up freely to a full understanding of the case. And thus we are enabled to say of Franklin county, she is equal to most of the counties in the State, so far as to the extent of territory. But in variety of its agricultural and mineral resources, it exceeds all others. Combined with its navigation, its nearness to St. Louis, we can only say, it only needs a proper application of capital and enterprise to render it one of the most desirable and wealthy counties in the State. To this should be added a few acts of judicious legislation.

A. FARMER.

Those bugs sent from Franklin County, are the 'Rose Bug.' See July number of the Valley Farmer.

WAYNE COUNTY (ILL.) AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—A goodly number of the farmers of Wayne assembled at the Court House in that field, on Saturday, the 24th inst.; the meeting, having been previously organized, a committee of five was appointed to draft the Constitution and By-Laws for a county Agricultural Society; said committee being authorized and instructed to report their action in the progress to a meeting of the Agriculturists of Wayne, on Saturday the 7th of August.

The preliminary step having thus been taken, we have no doubt the Society will be organized on a permanent basis, and will be productive of many good results. Success to the farmers! We are glad to see them awake to their real interests.—Herald.

### Farmer and Artisan.

It will be seen by the following circular that the publication of the "Farmer and Artisan," commenced last spring in Keokuk, has been suspended, and its lists of subscribers transferred to the Valley Farmer. While we feel that by this movement the farmers of Iowa and the west generally have lost a periodical devoted to their interests, and conducted with singular ability, we may indulge the hope that our paper will be found equally worthy of confidence and patronage. It has ever been our aim to make the Valley Farmer strictly what its name imports—an advocate and friend of the farmers of the Mississippi Valley. Our aim has been to benefit the whole region, because our interests are all identical, and together we must advance or together we must see other sections outstrip us in the race of improvement. Regarding St. Louis as the great concentrating point of this great region we have planted ourselves here, and endeavored to build up a publication the influence of which for good should be felt throughout the entire valley. If our efforts have not been as successful as we could have desired, or as perhaps would have been necessary to satisfy persons of more sanguine dispositions than ourselves, we have had the satisfaction of knowing that they have received the approbation of the wise and discriminating every where, and that our patronage has been steadily and constantly increasing.

A bright future is in prospect for the farmers of this Valley. Improvement is their rallying cry, and before it old superstitions, old customs and old prejudices are fading away. On every hand we see County Agricultural Societies being formed, giving evidence that we are waking up and preparing to appropriate to ourselves the peculiar advantages which flow through these channels. Choice stock of all kinds never was in such demand as at the present time; agricultural machines and implements of improved patterns or for new purposes find ready sale among us, and what is better still, a spirit of inquiry, of seeking after intelligence about our own business, is developing itself. We are beginning to consider it no disgrace to be called "book-farmers," and accordingly agricultural books and newspapers

are sought for with avidity, and perused with profit.

Nor is this all. Various causes have contributed to give our agricultural interests an importance in the eyes of the world. The opening of the great thoroughfares of commerce which are bringing our fertile lands in close proximity with the great markets of the land, is attracting to our midst thousands of intelligent agriculturists from other sections, and inducing many of the mechanics and business men of our cities and towns to retire to the country and turn their attention to agricultural pursuits.

Now shall the Valley Farmer accomplish the full amount of its mission? We do not ask if it shall be *sustained*,—that point is settled by its present condition. But, shall it be fostered and encouraged and circulated throughout the whole valley so that through its pages we may interchange the opinions and experience of every farmer? Our cause is the farmers' cause, and with them we trust our interests.

### To the Subscribers of the Farmer and Artisan.

The undersigned regrets to announce to the friends of agricultural improvement, that the encouragement given him in the support of the Farmer and Artisan, will not warrant its successful prosecution.

The expense of publishing three Nos., exceeded the receipts some \$100; to which may be added traveling expenses, amounting to \$40; which in connection with the loss of three months, in the management and traveling for the paper makes up an aggregate loss that can not be continued without seriously conflicting with other pecuniary arrangements, and hence the work will be suspended, until the citizens of the west, afford better evidences that a magazine of this kind is required in addition to those already published.

In order to convince the friends who lent their influence in supporting the enterprise, that the undersigned has no disposition to make use of their money without giving them in return full value, a sufficient number of copies of the Valley Farmer, published by E. Abbott of St. Louis, has been secured, including the six Nos. commencing with the July No., which at one

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dollar per year will be equal to the price paid for the Farmer and Artisan.

It is to be hoped that this arrangement will be perfectly satisfactory, and that the friends will render Mr. Abbott every assistance in their power in extending the circulation of his excellent paper as widely as possible. It is important to the western agriculture that immediate steps be taken for the formation of Agricultural Societies throughout the populous counties of the Upper Mississippi Valley, and to secure this object an efficient organ such as the Valley Farmer should be liberally patronized. As a practical farmer, we shall be pleased to aid the friends of improvement in the west in carrying out any legitimate plan for promoting the best interests of agriculture, and truly regret that so little interest has yet been produced in favor of a united effort in bringing about a better system of organization, for the purpose of effecting practical reforms, in the physical development of the agricultural resources of this unrivalled fertile valley.

W. G. EDMUNDSON.

Keokuk, Iowa, July 10th, 1852.

#### More fine stock for Boone County.

A few days since we paid our respects to some very fine animals brought from Ohio by J. H. McNeil, of Boone County, and destined for his farm there. They consisted of three cows, a yearling bull, and one or two calves. In bringing them round from Ohio, Mr. McNeil had the misfortune to loose his finest bull overboard. Taken together this was as fine a lot of animals as we have often had the privilege of seeing, and we trust and believe the enterprising importer will find his reward.

Boone County is receiving many accessions of fine animals to her stock, and we think her County Fair this fall will show a finer collection of choice cattle than has ever been seen in this State. The St. Louis Intelligencer of July 12, thus speaks of a lot which passed through this city a few days previous to Mr. McNeil's.

'We were pleased to see some very fine Durham or short horned cattle, and fine woolled sheep, landed on our wharf from the steamer "John Simpson," on Saturday morning.—They were shipped on the J. M. Clendenin the same day for Boone county, in this State.—

Among the number was a bull calf—"Favorite"—nine months old, of fine form and symmetry, and which weighed a few days since one thousand pounds; two cows and a heifer, all thorough bred. They were purchased by Eld. T. M. Allen, and his son, Wm. H. Allen, of Boone county, and are now on their way to Mr. Allen's farm, on the "Two-mile Prairie." They are from the best of herds of Kentucky, and will be a great accession to our State. Mr. Allen also had five long woolled sheep, of great size and beauty. This stock is from the herds of James S. Matson, O. H. Burbridge, and Eld. Jno. A. Gano, of Bourbon county, Ky., whose reputation as breeders of fine stock, is extensively and favorably known. Mr. Allen had also in charge a very superior two year old bull and heifer, of the same kind of stock, belonging to A. W. Turner, Esq., of Boone county. Mr. James Hickman, and Mr. Wm. Harris, also had in the same company a few full blooded cattle and sheep, very fine indeed. They are from the same herds, and all are destined for "old Boone," who seems to be leading off finely in the improvement of her stock. Such importations will do much, not only for that county but for the State; and we fondly trust our enterprising fellow-citizens, who have thus liberally embarked in this enterprise, will be richly rewarded.

**WHEAT CULTURE.**—We invite attention to the article on wheat culture published in our paper this month, and prepared for it by Dr. Edmundson, Editor of the Farmer and Artisan. Dr. Edmundson is a clear, plain and sensible writer, and says just such things as every farmer should read and treasure up in his memory. Some of his notions will be new to many of our readers and we advise them to put the various methods which he suggests to a trial.

Dr. E. informs us that he has purchased a farm near Nauvoo, in Illinois, where he intends to illustrate the principles of improved farming by practice. We hope he will have all success and that we shall often have an opportunity to present the results of his operations to the readers of the Valley Farmer.

**IMPLEMENTS.**—A trial of agricultural implements to take place at Geneva, about the 20th of July, has been appointed by the New York State Agricultural Society. Prizes are offered for the best implements tested. Those designing to have articles at the exhibition, are requested to give notice to the chairman of the committee of arrangements, John S. Pranty before the 10th of July.

Correspondence of the "Valley Farmer."

### Hemp Crops.

HOWARD COUNTY, July 24, 1852.

As regards the present growing Hemp crop, I am satisfied that it will not exceed if it comes up to a half average crop. The frequent Spring rains throughout this part of the State, operated very much against its growth, and I know of several fields, cultivated by old and experienced farmers of this staple of our State, which last year produced eight hundred lbs. per acre, that this season will not, in many parts, be worth cutting.

This fact regarding this county, added to the destruction of several entire, and the injury of many crops by the hail-storm, which occurred in Jackson and LaFayette counties, soon after the coming up of the plant, must occasion a very short crop throughout the State for the present year.

Z.

### American Hemp.

Capt. J. T. Cleveland, of Howard county has politely favored us with a copy of a letter received by him from Sewell, Day & Co., extensive cordage manufacturers of Boston, which we take pleasure in laying before our readers:

Boston, June 18, 1852.

J. T. CLEVELAND—*Dear Sir:* In reply to your enquiries about the quantity of hemp and duck required to fit out a vessel of 1,000 tons and a 74, we give the weights of several gangs of Cordage from our books:

Tonnage.	Tarred Cordage.	Manilla do.	Total.
900	29,671 lbs.	6,871 lbs.	36,542.
1000	21,591 "	8,911 "	30,502.
1400	29,966 "	15,333 "	45,316.

Six thousand yards of Cotton duck, 22 inches wide, is the average quantity for the sails of a (1,000) ton ship.

We get from the Charleston Navy Yard the following: "It takes 15,410 yards of duck to make one suit of sails for a Line of Battle Ship, and about 176,000 lbs. of hemp are required to rig and fit a 74 ready for sea."

American hemp is in a great measure taking the place of foreign; so much so that out of 94 gangs of Cordage made by us last year, 62 were of American. The farmers, however, are not generally particular enough in cleaning and preparing their hemp for market; and if you are writing an article on that staple, it will be well to lay some stress on that point.

Yours Respectfully,

SEWELL, DAY & CO.

It will be seen by this letter that the pros-

pects for a largely increased demand for American Hemp are very good, at the same time a well merited caution is administered to growers of the article to use more care in the preparation for market. We have an abundance of good hemp land in Missouri, and for a long time to come this will form one of our most important staples—how important then, that Missouri farmers should have such a reputation among dealers and manufacturers, as will place the produce of this State in the front rank of excellence.

We would suggest that wherever Agricultural Societies are formed in hemp growing counties, premiums be offered for the best specimens of hemp prepared for market.

For the Valley Farmer.

### Agricultural meeting in Franklin County.

In pursuance of public notice, a large number of Citizens assembled at the Court House, in the town of Union, on Thursday the 15th of July, for the purpose of taking the preliminary steps in order to organize an Agricultural and Mechanical Association, for the county of Franklin.

Upon motion of A. W. Jeffries, Dr. John G. Chiles was called to the chair; and upon motion of Henry Cheatham, Esq., A. W. Jeffries was requested to act as Secretary.

Dr. Chiles then, in a brief and happy style, explained the object of the meeting, waking up the minds of all present to the great importance of the subject, if properly conducted.—On concluding his remarks, the following persons were selected to make the same public throughout the County and to submit to the next meeting, a suitable Constitution and Bye Laws, for the government of the Association. To wit:

Hon. Chas. Jones, Henry Cheatham, W. J. Brown, Esq., J. B. Southworth, E. Butler, Jr., Judge Terry, Wm. Bell, F. J. North, Edward J. Good, Sam'l. Shelton, Daniel Gale, David A. Davidson, Judge F. Becker, Samuel Massey, and Asa Brackenridge.

Hon. Charles Jones was then requested (being a farmer) to address the next meeting at large upon the subject, which request was agreed to, his Honor being then present.

Upon motion, the foregoing proceedings be sent to the Valley Farmer for publication, with a request that all the City papers copy the same. And on motion the meeting was adjourned to the 2d Monday in August next:

JOHN G. CHILES, Chairman.

A. W. JEFFRIES, Secretary.

Union, Franklin County, Mo., July 15, 1852.



**GREEN CROPS AS MANURE.**—We believe the majority of our agricultural writers agree upon the advantage of plowing-in green crops as manure on exhausted lands, and it has long been practiced as one of the cheapest and best modes, under given circumstances, of accomplishing that result.

We have been not a little surprised, therefore, to find in an agricultural address delivered by Mr. Gowan, of Mt. Airy, near Philadelphia, such views as the following:

‘There is another remark, however it may conflict with pre-conceived opinion, or established usage, which a sense of duty compels me to make; and that is, of all the time-wasting, land-cheating practices, none is more to be deprecated than that of turning in green crops, as a succedaneum for manure. In whatever place this is practiced, however strong the land may be at the start, the system, if preserved in, must inevitably bring the land, its owners, and the country, into a state of poverty. No good husbandman would think of pursuing such a course. Think of the time lost in preparing the ground for a crop, seeding it, and then, instead of allowing it to mature, to be gathered to the barn, plowing it under, to serve as manure to the land on which it was raised. *Manure, indeed! To call the acidulated water, which the decomposition of partly grown clover, buckwheat, &c., produces, in manure, would be a misnomer—the calling of a thing by the wrong name.* \* \* \*

If the turning-in, year after year, scant crops of clover and the like, be persisted in, the land so treated must, in a brief period, become not only destitute of vegetable mold, but of every other organic ingredient necessary to fertility.’

If Mr. Gowan goes on at this rate, he will demonstrate that there is no warmth begotten by sunshine! Does Mr. G. happen to have heard that one of the premium farms in the state of New York—that of Mr. D. D. T. More, of Watervliet—185 acres was purchased by Mr. M. five years ago, and was, according to the affidavits made to the society, so poor at that time, that the only crop Mr. M. could then raise on it was *white beans*, and that without capital, and supply by good management, Mr. M. has not only brought this farm to the highest condition, but made it produce a net profit of \$2,678 per year. How was this poor worn-out farm restored? We give Mr. More’s own words: “I found the best mode of improving my land was by *plowing under green clover*, the growth of the clover being aided by a liberal application of plaster—say 250 lbs. to the acre.”

Having had a glimpse of Mr. More’s farm, and being able to certify from that glimpse, that he is a master farmer, and no quack, we commend his practice to Mr. Gowan, confident that Mr. Moore’s practice, well understood

and practiced by American “skimmers,” would fill their pockets with “yellow boys,” rather than their soil with “acidulated water.”—*Horticulturist.*

**THE GUINEA HEN; OR PINTADO.**—This bird must be referred to Africa, as the place of its origin. But it has been diffused over a great part of Europe, the West Indies, and the American Continent. The young are considered a great delicacy; and it is said, generally formed a part of the Roman feasts. The females lay a larger number of eggs than the common domestic hens. And on this account the Guinea Hen is particularly raised and kept. It seems to be a restless animal, and is almost constantly in motion. It is very noisy and its sounds are harsh and unpleasant. When it is disturbed, it is very clamorous, as if it would raise an alarm for its protection. The Guinea Hen is of a larger body than the common one, but its wings are quite short. The tail is pendulous like the partridge. It has no feathers on the head, but on the top is a callous protuberance of a conical form. The general color of the plumage is a dark blueish gray.

**BLIND TEETH IN HORSES.**—A correspondent of the Albany Cultivator relates a case of a stallion of his becoming blind without any apparent cause. On the horse being examined by a friend it was found that he had blind or wolf teeth, which being knocked out the horse soon recovered.

Four years ago this summer, I had a fine young horse, whose sight appeared to be failing gradually day by day. A white gummy substance, exuded from the eye, and I was told by a friend that he had the ‘hooks.’

Having heard something concerning ‘blind’ teeth, (thanks to the Agricultural papers,) I made an examination and found one was very dark colored. This, I knew from all accounts was a ‘wolf’ or ‘blind’ tooth. Being near a blacksmith’s shop, I obtained a punch and hammer, got a man to hold his hands over the horse’s eyes, while by placing the punch against the tooth I knocked it out. The horse soon recovered his sight as well as ever.

THE VALLEY FARMER still continues to swell the stock of valuable information, with respect to western agricultural and horticultural science. We say western, because differences of seasons, soils, and climates between the East and the West, and between the borders and the interiors of our extensive continent, essentially vary the modes of scientific farming. Hence the wisdom of patronizing works of this kind issued among us, and consequently better adapted to the peculiarities of our region, in preference to distant works not so well adapted, but which we find many farmers patronizing to the neglect of our own.—*Rushville (Ill.) Tel.*

For the Valley Farmer  
**A few Practical and Seasonable Hints  
 on Wheat Culture.**

BY G. W. EDMUNDSON.

To furnish any thing like an intelligible and practical essay, on the culture and management of land for the winter wheat crop, for the readers of a standard publication, circulated extensively throughout a belt of country embracing the most Northern and Southern degrees of latitude the where crop is susceptible of profitable cultivation, and one too in which every conceivable quality of soil abounds, it must be conceded that the writer should be practically acquainted with the subject in all its varied details. How far such an acquaintance with this important branch of husbandry may be possessed by the writer of these pointed remarks, others must decide; and if upon trial any pecuniary advantages should be realized from any or all of the systems recommended, a discriminating and intelligent public opinion may place the gross amount of extra profits obtained, to the credit of a long and extensive series of careful experiments based upon the natural laws governing vegetable physiology. For convenience sake, both to the readers and the writer, the subject will be divided into separate heads, each of which will form distinct articles, and the readers must decide for themselves how far this or that practice, is adapted to the peculiar soil they cultivate.

**PLOWING UNDER CLOVER SOD FOR WHEAT.**

During the early part of August this work may be prosecuted with advantage. The clover should be six inches in height, and as the ground on most soils will be difficult or hard to plow, three horses abreast, or two or three yoke of oxen in a team may be used with great advantage, as the furrows should average from seven to ten inches in depth, and the width of course must be regulated by the character of the plow, and the strength of the team. Instead of forming flat wide beds, ridges from six to eight yards wide should be made, and to impart to the work a finished and workmanlike appearance, these ridges should be slightly rounded from the centre each way towards the open furrow, and the entire mass of furrow slices should be made perfectly straight, so that every particle of soil will be turned to a given

depth. Water furrows intervening at intervals of six yards, should not exceed ten inches in width and of equal depth. The plan for narrowing the open or drain furrow, is to plow the last furrow but one, more shallow than the others, and after the last furrow is turned take a bottom or sole furrow some three inches deeper than the ordinary furrows, and lap it upon the last furrow, thus a saving in land will be effected, and the drainage will be as perfect as can be done by a plow. About one month should elapse between the plowing and seed time; and during that time the mechanical agency of air, sun, rains, dews, and the decomposition of the roots and blades of clover upon the soil, will fit it for the reception of seed. Drill culture is preferable to broadcast, and when the former is practiced, a harrowing lengthwise of the furrow is necessary to smooth the ground, for the perfect working of the machine but when sown broadcast, the seed should be sown previous to harrowing, and the ground should be harrowed only sufficient to cover the seed, as rough cloddy surface is preferable to a smooth and well pulverised soil. From one bushel and a half to two bushels of seed per acre will not be found too much seed, and the period for seeding may be any time between the first and twentieth of September. As soon as the seed is harrowed or drilled in, the water furrows should all be cleaned out with a plow to the full depth the land was plowed, and the low places in the field should have cross furrows to carry off the water.

**MANAGEMENT OF NAKED SUMMER FALLOW.**

The old fashioned method of making naked summer fallows has generally been succeeded by other plans, thought to be productive of larger and more immediate returns. It is very obvious where a proper rotation of crops is practiced, and a mixed system of husbandry adopted, that the very expensive plan of plowing the ground from three to four times for fall wheat, is useless, and indeed much of the labor is not only thrown away, but the yield of wheat will be less than if the land had been plowed only twice. Where the second plowing is to be given, the first furrow should be plowed some three inches shallower than the second, and instead of cross plowing, the sec-

and plowing should be done in the same direction as the first, and on flat or level ground the ridges may be gathered the second time with great advantage to the wheat crop the second time from the crown, thus forming a perfectly dry seed bed some fifteen inches higher at the crown of the ridge than at the bottom of the water furrows. In commencing the second plowing on the centre of the top of a ridge, before closing the two first furrows, two furrows should be opened right and left, and then the crown may be closed by which a slightly oval appearance to the ridges will be given without producing too sudden a pitch for the water from the centre of the ridge to the furrow. The plan of thus ridging up land for winter wheat, on clay soils, and commencing the second plowing in the centre of the ridge, rather than in the furrow, possesses advantages that cannot be properly appreciated only by those who have practiced it. Both plowings being done in the same line of direction, the furrow slices first formed do not become broken and pulverized as much as if the land had been cross plowed, and hence the rains that fall upon the surface settle down to the depth the soil had been plowed, and passes off freely into the furrow, leaving the rootlets of the wheat plants in a dry and protected position and where this system is practiced with any skill winter killing of the crop rarely occurs.

#### SOWING WHEAT AMONG THE GROWING CORN.

The labor and expense requisite for a good crop of corn, in a great majority of cases admirably prepares the land for fall wheat. Where the two crops combined, can be produced at a cost of cultivation, requisite only for one crop, a clear gain of some six dollars per acre may be obtained; and although two white crops following in succession is only adapted to a rich virgin soil, yet by manuring highly for the corn, and seedling down the land with clover, with the crop succeeding wheat, no serious deterioration in the productiveness of the soil will be experienced. For convenience and neatness sake, the corn should be drilled in rows from four to five feet apart, and the wheat when sown broadcast among the corn may be plowed in, or covered with a one horse plow forming ridges the width that the rows of corn are

apart. Four furrows would thus form a ridge, and in the centre of each row of corn, would be a neat water furrow, along which any redundancy of fall, winter, and spring rains would pass, leaving the wheat plants perfectly dry and protected from excessive moisture and ice. Where corn fodder is not an object of much importance, and the wheat crop is liable to receive damage from the severity of winter and spring frosts, the stalks may be allowed to stand on the ground until the first of April, which in bleak situations will afford great protection to the young wheat plants.

To secure success to the wheat crop, it is not essential that the corn should be planted in drills, as the common plan of planting will answer an excellent purpose; and the seed may be covered with a shovel plow, a steel tooth cultivator, or any other implement adapted to the horse culture of corn. Early seedling is desirable, if the Hessian Fly does not abound, and from six to eight pecks per acre may be sown. But to have a neat job, and one that would afford the largest product, the seed should be plowed in, forming ridges the width the rows are apart. Where wheat is sown after corn, or among the standing corn, as here recommended, it is obvious that extra pains must be taken to keep the corn crop clear from weeds, and when this is properly done, and the land is either made rich by artificial manuring, or is so naturally, as high an average yield of wheat can be obtained, as by any of the more expensive modes of culture.

#### WHEAT CULTURE ON THE PRAIRIES.

To some extent the systems already described are adapted to the western prairies, and upon trial would be found much superior to the prevailing practice. But there is a peculiar feature in wheat culture on western prairies that neither of the systems will be found applicable, and as it is one of very considerable importance, some few suggestions to those living on prairies, or who may purpose engaging in wheat culture in the west, may be found of some pecuniary advantage.

That is thought a very certain crop when sown upon newly broken prairie sod, but the average rarely exceeds 25 bushels per acre, and indeed 15 bushels per acre, may be deemed a general average. With a small extra expense

the yield could be doubled, and as it is within the reach of every farmer whether he farms on a large or small scale, an experiment should be made by each, so as to increase the products of their farms as speedily as possible. In breaking up a prairie sod, the common practice is to plow around a field, whether it be an eighty or one hundred and sixty acre lot. The sod is usually turned three inches deep in the month of June, and by the first of September the rot is sufficient to warrant seeding. Some farmers prefer one plowing to two, and in either case the active soil turned, is barely sufficient to cause the wheat to germinate, and take root. A much better system would be found in plowing the land into ridges, say ten to twelve yards wide, and plow two furrows deep, by having a common steel mould board crossing plow to follow in the furrow made by the prairie plow. The latter may be three inches deep as usual, and the former may average four, or as much as a single span of horses or yoke of oxen could turn. The lower soil by being throw upon the surface would speedily undergo a change sufficient to ensure a healthy germination of the seed, and growth of plants. To make a complete job, the seed should be sown with the drilling machine, and the seed coulters set so as to deposit the seed to very nearly the depth of the lower or active soil upon the surface; and thus the roots of the young wheat plants would take a strong hold, and the sod would retain the moisture, and at the same time secure the drainage of the land into the deep furrow by which much of the risk of winter killing would be avoided.

Other suggestions useful to the practical wheat grower might be added, but sufficient probably have been adduced to be embraced within the compass of a single correspondence. In the September number of the Valley Farmer I may add a few more practical thoughts upon the culture of the cereal grains.

Keokuk, July 20, 1852.

**THE WHITE NATIVE GRAPE.**—You ask for some information relative to a white native grape, cultivated by me. I will give you, as lean, the history of it.

The banks of the Pawtuckaw (a small branch of the Lamphrey river,) abound with wild grapes so that in the space of two miles you may meet with twenty different kinds, all of

which have originated from seeds, and from one of which this vine originated. The old vine appears to be sixty or seventy years old; it stands in a cold, rocky, uncultivated spot, and climbs some large maples, flourishing without cultivation. I have known it for eighteen years, and never but what it has borne some every year. The fruit is from one-third to double the size of the Isabella with us; it is rather of a drab color, but when very white of a reddish color, but when very white of a reddish cast, quite sweet, and with a very white aroma. I have never known it mildew, which most of the white varieties are apt to do. The fruit is much larger on the cultivated than on the old stock, but it does not get its full flavor till the vines have borne two or three years, or till the roots get strong. It is perfectly hardy in our climate, and usually stops growing about the first of September. The fruit ripens about the middle of the month in common seasons, and will keep for some time. It is a good bearer: a neighbor has a vine about ten years old, (a layer from the old vine,) which for the last two years has borne fruit. When planted on the south side of a building, it frequently ripens a week earlier. They are now scattered through the whole of New England, and one lot in New York. About two years ago I planted some small vines, on a high, dry knoll in the open field to test their growing on high, dry ground, and I have never seen any grow better. Whenever I have sent the fruit as a specimen, it has invariably given perfect satisfaction; and should it prove adapted to the wants of the people, I shall feel myself richly rewarded for my trouble.—*Plough, Loom and Anvil.*

From the Wisconsin Farmer.

### Budding and Inoculating.

This is one of the most important operations pertaining to Horticulture. For the speedy and sure propagation of trees, it has some decided advantages over grafting; as it only requires a single bud, and if a bud fail the first time others can afterwards insert the same season—or if the operation fail entirely one season the growth of the stalk is not lost as where grafting fails. The two conditions of plants indispensable to success in budding are 1, *a thrifty growth of the stalk so that the bark will peel easily*; 2, *good ripe buds*, which may generally be known by the perfect development of the young buds at the base of the leaves, and by the shield or bark to which the buds are attached, separating easily from the wood—and in short by the general firmness and ripeness of the shoots. Those buds near the middle of the shoots are most esteemed.

Plums and Cherries should be budded early, whilst peaches do best when set the latter part of August—and in fact are often budded in September.

Apples and Pears can be set from the commencement of the budding season, that is if the buds be ripe—until the last of August; though the first half of August is generally the best time. The time for commencing operations in the budding line, varies considerably according to the seasons—it answering as well to begin the 15th or 20th of July, in some seasons, as the first of August in others.

Before commencing operations it will be necessary to have your stalk in readiness, and to provide yourself with a thin bladed knife, and a supply of strings for tying up the buds.

Bass or other matting, such as is used around furniture, the inner bark of the trees like bass, linden and elm may be used for bands; also cotton wicking, woolen yarn or strips of cloth from the tailors. Matting and bark should be wet before using. In budding, the first thing is to prepare a stick of buds—that is take off a thrifty shoot of this year's growth, and after cutting off the upper, unripe portion of it, to clip off the leaves, leaving about half an inch of their foot stalks on the shoots. Having selected a smooth place in the stalk, preferring the North or North East side, make a perpendicular incision through the bark an inch or an inch and a half in length, and at the top of this a cross cut, so that the whole shall form a T. With the point of your knife blade, or with the haft of your budding-knife, if you have one, raise or loosen the bark from the stalk each side of the incision—being very careful not to bruise either the bark or sap wood beneath. As speedily as possible, and with a clean smooth cut, take off a bud, from your stick of buds with a thin slice of the wood attached. When this wood is loose it is better to remove it, which may be done by putting the edge of the knife under the wood, between it and the bark and lifting it up, taking care not to pull out the root of the bud. Having ascertained that it is about the right length, lift up the bark at the top of the cut and insert the bud, which with the aid of the footstalk should then be pushed down to the bottom of the incision. If the top of the bud reaches above the cross cut it should be cut off so as to fit exactly. A bandage, should now be tied evenly and snugly over the whole (leaving the bud and foot stalk, which must be left exposed,) extending a little above and below the wound. Care and expedition must be used in the operation to have it succeed well, as if the parts are bruised or suffered to become dry they will not unite. If the foot stalk remains fresh and green until it drops, or at the end of about two weeks the bud is seen to be very plump, it indicates that the bud has taken, but if it withers up it shows the contrary. In two or three weeks, or as soon as the union between the bud and stalk is perfect, the bandage should be loosed and if the stock has

swelled much it should be entirely taken off. The band needs to remain on the cherry longer than on other stocks. In the spring from the bursting of buds to the time when leaves reach half their size, cut off the stock in which the bud is good, to within two or three inches of the bud and when the bud has started, if it inclines off, tie it to the stump. Rub off the sprouts from the stock so as to throw all the growth into the bud. After the bud has got fairly started, say the latter part of June or first of July, cut the old stock off down even with the bud, in a sloping direction, when it will soon be covered with young bark.

We have endeavored to explain the process of budding so fully and plain, that with the aid of the illustrations, any person of ordinary understanding, need not doubt his ability to perform the operation successfully: and we most earnestly use our agricultural friends to make themselves practically familiar with the subject.

### Land for All.

[The Hon. Thomas B. Florence, of Pennsylvania, in his speech in favor of the Homestead Law, when pending before the House of Representatives, introduced the following striking poem, from the pen of Daguerre.]

'The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof,'

Says God's most holy word;

The water bath fish, and the land hath flesh,

And the air hath many a bird;

And the soil is teeming o'er all the earth,

And the earth hath numberless lands,

Yet millions of hands want acres,

And millions of acres want hands.

Sunlight, And music, and glad song flowers,

Are over the earth spread wide;

And God gave these gifts to man—

To men who on earth abide.

Yet thousands are falling in poisonous gloom,

And shackled with iron bands,

And millions of hands want acres,

And millions of acres want hands.

'Tis writ that we shall not muzzle the ox,

That treadeth out the corn;

But behold ye shackle the poor man's hands,

That have all earth's burden borne;

The land is a gift of a bounteous God,

And to labor his word commands;

Yet millions of hands want acres,

While millions of acres want hands.

Who hath ordained that few should hoard,

That millions of useless stand,

And rob the earth of its fruit and flowers,

While profitless sell they both?

Who hath ordained that parchment scroll,

Should fence round miles of lands,

While millions of hands want acres,

And millions of acres want hands?

'Tis a glaring lie on the face of day

This robbery of man's rights—

'Tis a lie the word of the Lord disowns,

'Tis a curse that burns and blights;

And 'twilt burn and blight till the people rise

And swear, while they break the bands,

That the hands shall henceforth have acres,

And the acres henceforth have hands.



## PRESENCE OF MIND.

Very much has been written in regard to this important trait of character, yet adults, as well as children, are continually in every *dangerous* emergency, found lamentably deficient. Accidents causing death and destruction of property will ever occur; therefore, in calm and tranquil moments, we should fortify ourselves for the hour of danger. The story of 'John Raynor,' impressed on the mind, possibly might have restored to life many children apparently drowned.

'It was during the summer holidays of 1800,' said Mr. Bowers, 'I had a young friend staying with me and my younger brother Edward. His name was John Raynor; and how he came by so much information as he seemed to have, I do not remember that we troubled ourselves to inquire; but my father who liked John exceedingly, said it was from his constant habit of observation. He was then only fourteen, only two years older than myself. One evening, during the absence of my parents we occupied ourselves with assisting our old gardener. The garden sloped down to a broad river which joined the sea at a few miles distance. I was not so busy but I looked up every now and then to watch the beautiful sunset that sparkled on the water, or the passage-boats and country barges that glided by at intervals. Suddenly I observed, at a small distance, something floating on the water.

'It is the body of a boy!' said John and in a few moments flung of his Jacket and threw himself into the water. Fortunately he was a good swimmer, and his courage never left him. He swam with all his strength towards the floating body, and seizing with one hand the hair, with the other directed his course to the shore. We watched eagerly, and the moment he came within reach, assisted him in laying the body on a grass-plot. My brother Edward recognized him as the son of a washerwomen, exclaiming as he burst into tears.

'Poor woman she will never see her boy again.' John replied in a hurried one.

She may, if we lose no time, and use

the right means to recover him. Edward run quickly for a doctor, and as you pass the kitchen tell Susan to have a bed warmed.'

'We had better hold him up by the heels,' said the gardener, 'to let the water run out of his mouth.'

'No, no,' exclaimed John; 'by so doing we shall kill him, if he is not already dead; we must handle him as gently as possible.'

'When the body had been carried into the house, the gardener urged John to place the body near the kitchen fire; but after a little persuasion they yielded to John's entreaty, and the body was rubbed dry, and placed on his right side between hot blankets on a mattress. The head was bound with flannel, and placed high on pillows; four bottles were filled with hot water, wrapped in flannels and placed at the arm pits and feet, while the body was constantly rubbed with hot flannels. John then took the bellows, and having blown out all the dust, directed me to close the mouth and one nostril, while he, by blowing in at the other, filled the chest with air; he then laid aside the bellows, and pressed the chest upwards to force the air out; this was done from twenty to thirty times in a minute to imitate natural breathing. All this time the windows and doors were left wide open. Edward at length returned without the doctor; he was absent from home. The use of friction with warm flannel, and artificial breathing, continued for one hour and a half, and no signs of life appeared. John continued his efforts. Another half hour passed, and to the inexpressible delight of us all, the boy opened his eyes, and uttered a faint sigh.'

What a good thing it was for the mother of this poor boy that John Raynor once read, on a framed printed paper, 'Rules of the human Society for recovering persons apparently drowned.' Better still that he had taken pains to remember them. Every item that we glean calculated to benefit the distressed, should be treasured in memory's garner for the hour of need.—*Mothers Journal and Family Visitant.*

### Lee county Agricultural Society.

We call particular attention to the proceedings of the Lee County Agricultural Society. This Society, with a commendable liberality has opened its doors to all the Mississippi Valley and we hope our Missouri farmers will avail themselves of the offer, and exhibit some of the productions of our State.

We look forward to the organization of a Valley Agricultural society with a great deal of hope, as a means of uniting and cementing the bonds of union between the farmers of our fertile valley. Probably there is no section of the country in the world where may be concentrated such a variety of productions, or where more remarkable proofs of the fertility of the soil can be obtained. Such a Society might enclose in its operations the whole region from the falls St. Anthony to the mouth of the Arkansas, and such is the facility of intercourse that this whole extent might be represented in its exhibitions. It would enclose one-fourth of the agricultural land of the Union, and ultimately will enclose one-fourth of the agricultural population.

Our Iowa neighbors have our sincere thanks for taking the initial steps in this movement, and we hope the farmers of Illinois and Missouri will cordially unite with them. Let there be a good turn out to the exhibition this fall and let every man go with a determination to give his name and influence to so praiseworthy an object.

This movement will not in the least interfere with our State movements. We intend to urge both with all the zeal we can command, and we are happy to know that there is a good prospect that success will be the result in both cases.

At a general meeting of the members of the Lee County Agricultural Society, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted.

1st. *Resolved*, That an exhibition be held in the city of Keokuk, in the early part of October next, and liberal premiums be awarded for the best specimens exhibited, including the various departments of Agriculture, Manufactures Mechanics, Horticulture, and Household arts, adapted to the growth and production of the Upper Mississippi Valley.

2nd. *Resolved*, That the premiums offered, shall be open for competition, to the citizens

of Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota, and that a subscription list be circulated extensively in all the above States, and especially in the river counties, for the purpose of raising funds, to award in premiums at the October Fair under the patronage of the Lee County Agricultural Society.

3d. *Resolved*, That an Executive Committee, consisting of Dr. Griswold, of Hancock county, Illinois, T. Line, of St. Francisville, Mo., D. A. Robertson, of St. Paul, Minnesota, and the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Lee County Society, are authorized, to take charge of the entire arrangements of the Fair, and superintend generally the local business connected with the exhibition.

4th. *Resolved*, That the committee on printing consist of the Secretary and Vice President of the Society.

5th. *Resolved*, That the funds for premiums be raised by subscription of members at one dollar each; by the legislative grant to Lee Society for 1852, by donations of individuals possessing ample wealth, and county agricultural societies, to be awarded for specific purposes as sweepstake premiums, as the donors in their judgment may deem expedient, and by a fee of admission of 25 cents, charged to all persons not members who may visit the rooms and grounds of the exhibition.

6th. *Resolved*, That the officers and members of all the county societies organized in the Mississippi Valley as well as the leading agriculturists, be invited to cordially co-operate in this movement, so that if possible an industrial association for the entire Upper Mississippi Valley, be organized at the close of the October exhibition, so as to enable that body to hold a grand Industrial Fair at St. Louis, in the Autumn of 1853.

7th. *Resolved*, That a Finance Committee be appointed in Lee county, consisting of three members in each township, to whom shall be entrusted the raising of subscriptions in aid of the Fair, which shall be paid over to the Treasurer of Lee County Agricultural Society, Judge R. P. Lowe of Keokuk, on or before the 1st day of October next, and in conjunction with such committee, gentlemen in various portions of the valley be invited to exert their influence in their respective circles in behalf of this valley movement.

8th. *Resolved*, That the following gentlemen be cordially invited to exert their influence in obtaining in their respective townships and neighborhoods, as large a subscription as possible, to be made payable on or before the first of October next, and that subscription lists for the purpose be forwarded to them, and others without delay.

Jackson Township—Wm. Leighton, George B. Williams, and W. C. Edmundson.

Montrose—Wm. Coleman, J. B. Bishop, and S. Beckley.

Des Moines—Wm. Meeks, John Richardson and Israel Anderson.

Charleston—J. T. Blair, Crippen, and Arthur Graham.

Van Buren—Benj. Casey, Josiah Henkle, and John G. Walker.

Harrison—Stephen Cook, A. McCulloch, and M. H. Walker.

Franklin—John Brown, M. Arnold and Absalom Anderson.

West Point—Judge Kinney, H. Dewey, and John H. Lines.

Fort Madison—Dr. Eads, H. Hughs, and David Richardson.

Washington—Thomas Owen, Robert Herring, and Amos McNeil.

Green Bay—John Thomson, Wm. Lucas, and James D. Gedney.

Denmark—Gustavus Bracket, T. Fox, and Lewis Ebbs.

Pleasant Ridge—John H. Hart, Nathan Bond, and Thomas Cherry.

Marion—Adam Wier, Stephen Townshend, and John Courtwright.

Cedar—Wm. Marshall, John Atlee, and John Dobbs.

WM. LEIGHTON, Chairman.

#### LEE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

It will be seen by the late proceedings of the officers and members of our County Agricultural Society, that preparations are being made to hold an Industrial Fair in Keokuk, in October next, embracing every department of labor; which will be open for competition to the farmers and artisans, including their wives and daughters of the entire Upper Mississippi Valley. We are happy to notice by our numerous exchanges, that county agricultural societies are being organized on both sides of the river, and this, among other evidences warrant the opinion that the day is not far distant when the vast natural agricultural resources of this unrivalled fertile valley will be speedily developed, and be brought into respectful notice—both at home and abroad. What we most want now is a concentration of effort, such as is constantly being put forth in New York, Ohio, and other distinguished agricultural States; and the wisest course to be pursued is, to adopt just such means, as have become instrumental in elevating the old States to the proud position they occupy in agricultural point of view.

We therefore advise our friends, independent of party or local consideration, to unite in building up a high character for the agriculture of our own county and State, and let us have, as soon as possible, County Fairs, State Fairs, and if thought expedient, a Valley Fair, and award liberal premiums for every article

of merit produced or invented by our farmers, manufacturers and mechanics;—and above all let us embrace as speedily as possible in our movements of progression, sufficient tact to adopt the improvements of older States, so as to place our agriculture upon a level with other States older than ours, but less blessed with a profusion of nature's best gifts—a fertile soil, a salubrious and healthy climate.

We hope when our friends are called upon to subscribe their DOLLAR towards making up funds for premiums for the approaching Fair, that they will not hesitate to put down their name, and will also exert their local influence among their neighbors in favor of this very laudible and patriotic movement.—*Iowa Statesman.*

#### Lee County Plowing Match.

We are requested by Mr. Edmundson, the Secretary of the Lee County Agricultural Society, to state that Thomas W. Claggett, Esq., of Keokuk, has given notice to the Society that he will donate *sixty dollars* in premiums to be to be awarded to the best plowman, who may compete for them at the Valley Fair at Keokuk, in October next. The plowmen will be divided into two classes—those over eighteen years old, will be considered *aged*, and those under that age *junior* plowmen. The best plowmen in each class will get \$20, the second best \$10. The competition, as in the other departments of the Fair, will be open to the citizens of the whole valley, and all parties competing for the premiums, not members will be charged an entrance fee of one dollar.

The plowing will consist of old timothy rod, each plowman being required to plow one-fourth of an acre to be divided into two ridges. The furrow sides will be required to be not less than six inches in depth, and the width not less than nine inches, nor more than twelve inches.

This will afford an excellent opportunity for plowmakers to bring their implements into public notoriety and favor, and we hope that our brethren of the press will give this notice publicity throughout the river counties, especially as it will afford the best means possible for the farmers to judge of the comparative merits of the plows manufactured along our river towns, as well as elsewhere throughout this valley.

After the great emulation that was produced at West Point at the spring plowing match, it is scarcely necessary to urge our young farmers to prepare for the approaching contest. We expect to see a large turn out from the northern portion of Lee, and unless our Hawk-Eye boys are vigilant in their practice, the young Germans will again take off the premiums and honors at Keokuk.

We shall keep our friends posted up about the doings of our County Agricultural Socie-

ty, and in the meantime would urge upon them the necessity of making extensive preparations for the Fall Fair.—*Iowa Statesman*.

### CONSTITUTION OF A COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

As we frequently receive requests from friends in the country for a draft for a constitution of an Agricultural Society we append a short model which may be varied to meet the wants of different districts. A constitution should be *brief*, easily understood, and to the purpose. Much of the detail of the operations of the Society should be provided for in its by-laws, so that the constitution may require but few changes.

1st. This Association shall be styled the County Agricultural Society--its object shall be the improvement of Agriculture, Horticulture, Mechanics, Arts, Rural and Domestic Economy.

2nd. The Officers of this Society shall consist of a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and one Director from each precinct in the County, who shall hold their offices for the term of one year, and until their successors are elected.

The President, Secretary and Treasurer shall constitute an Executive Committee for the transaction of business in the recess of meetings of the Board of Directors.

4th. This Society shall hold an annual Fair at such times and places as shall be designated by the Board of Directors.

5th. Any person being a resident of the County of \_\_\_\_\_ and paying into the Treasury the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ Dollar annually shall be considered a member of this Society.

6th. Competitors for premiums must be members of this Society.

7th. A list of the articles for which premiums are to be awarded by the Society, shall be published in some newspaper of the County, or in hand bills, at least one month prior to the exhibition.

8th. All the articles offered for premiums must be owned by the persons offering them, or by members of their families; and products of the soil, or manufactured articles, must be manufactured within the county. Exceptions to this rule may be made by special vote of the Board of Directors.

9th. Awarding committees of three persons each, shall be annually appointed by the Directors of the Society, for judging the different classes of articles offered in competition, and awarding premiums on the same, who shall be members of this Society.

10th. Awarding committees must require competitors for premiums on crops and other

improvements, to furnish correct statements of the process and expense of culture or production.

11th. Competitors for premiums on crops shall be required to have the ground and its products measured by no less than two disinterested persons, whose statements to the awarding committees must be certified in writing.

12th. Premiums on grass and grain crops shall not be awarded for less than *one acre*: the whole quantity produced on the amount of land specified shall be weighed or measured according to the statute weights of the State. The rules in relation to crops and other products to be agreed on by the Board of Directors.

13th. This constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of the majority of the members present, and voting, at any regular meeting.

### National Agricultural Convention.

The National Agricultural Convention, of which we gave some notices last week, seems to have done little for the cause which it was called to promote. There was one hundred and forty-four delegates present from twenty-three of the States, but the farmers as a class, took but little part in the proceedings. The President, Hon. M. P. WILDER, gave an eloquent and appropriate opening address, and, while waiting the organization, other remarks of like character were made by B. P. JOHNSON Esq., and Mr. CALHOUN, of Mass. The session, which continued two days, was mainly spent in political debate, and all we can learn, that was accomplished, was the formation of a U. S. Agricultural Society, and the passage of a resolution requesting Congress to something for the promotion of Agriculture, the great productive interest of the country.

The topics of division among the agriculturists were, whether Congress should be asked to establish an independent agricultural department of the government, or whether it should create such a department in connection with the Smithsonian Institute, or whether a simple central society would best answer the purposes of the farmers. The Business Committee, made a long report in favor of an Agricultural Bureau, which was strenuously opposed by a portion of the same Committee, who wished for a department of agriculture in connection with the Smithsonian Institute. The Chairman of the Committee, Senator DOUGLAS, in support of the last project, remarked: If an agricultural department or bureau were established, it would soon become, like other offices of the government, a place for all politicians, and its occupants would be removable at every change of administration. This would make these men much too anxious about politics to give up their whole thoughts to their official duties, and the consequence would be the



breaking down of the whole thing. He proposed that a department of Agriculture should be attached to the Smithsonian Institute, and believed that this would be more in accordance with the views of SMITHSON than the course pursued at present by those in charge of the Institution.

There were now no practical results; abstruse and theoretical subjects were all the professors busied themselves about; and unless this state of affairs were reformed, the Institute would become most odious in the sight of the American people. If it was the wish of the friends of the Smithsonian Institute to make their establishment popular, they must rest it on the great industrial institutions of the country. He wished the Institution to prosecute the sciences, but only with reference to the practical results. Let them pay attention to geology, mineralogy, and mechanics, but not forget agriculture. The Institution must make itself useful, and not waste its investigations upon the stars and the heavenly planets, and other matters which had no practical bearing. This Institution publishes transactions and sends them all over the globe. It receives vast numbers of agricultural reports and documents from all the agricultural societies of the country, but what does it do with them? For want of an agricultural department, their is no exchange of these reports, and they lie accumulating and useless.

Prof. HENRY, of the Smithsonian Institute, replied in an able speech, explaining and defending the objects of the Institute. He said, the will of SMITHSON was much misunderstood. His object in making that rich bequest was not an ordinary one; it was not merely useful knowledge, in the general acceptance of the word that he contemplated the increase and diffusion of, but he had high objects, expanded and elevated purposes, for he was a man of acquisition and research. The object of SMITHSON was not the benefits of his institution to this country only, but to the whole brotherhood of mankind. The people of the United States stand as mere trustees for the execution of his will and the proper use of the fund, a fund not intended for ends special to us, but for the universal family of man.

All discoveries must be encouraged, and such an institution as the Smithsonian required encouragement, that it might in the increase of knowledge, aid in adding new facts to science. For the diffusion of knowledge there were thousands of institutions where there was one for its increase, and the Smithsonian Institute in pursuing its true and genuine purpose is keeping that fact in full view. It had already published four quarto volumes, every page of which contained some new addition to knowledge, and these volumes were distributed in every direction. We will, said Prof. Henry,

co-operate with agricultural societies, and especially with the society now here in process of establishment. The Smithsonian Institute will offer its hall, its books, its apparatus.

We are even now doing much for agriculture. We are preparing an extended report on the forest trees of America; we have published a volume on the sea-weeds of America. These things might appear of no practical value or importance, and yet they are of the highest importance.

The second day was spent in debate. Messrs. Holcomb, Robinson, Bell, Douglas and others participating, and the Convention adjourned *sine die*, able only to agree on the resolution above noted. We have not seen an 'official' account of the proceedings, but condense our report of the speeches, &c., from the N. York Evening Post. We hope there is a brighter side to the picture, and shall present it if there is, but as yet to use the language of the political press, the whole affair seems 'a fizzle,' as far as any practical result is concerned, and very like that of the attempts heretofore made by Congress to 'do something' for the Agricultural Interest.—*Rural New Yorker*.

#### Daniel Webster on Farming.

The great orator certainly rises from his defeat as 'foeund as a lark.' His magnificent intellect seems to shine brighter, the nearer he approaches the grave. Recently the members of the National Agricultural Convention called on Mr. Webster, and he returned their welcome as follows. How brief—and yet how expressive is every word. The last sentence is one of surpassing beauty.—*Wisconsin*.

'You are engaged in a noble enterprise. The prosperity and glory of the Union are based on the achievements of agriculture. Gentlemen, I will say to you what I have never before said—that when forty-five years ago I was called to Dartmouth College to pass my second graduation, I attempted, in my humble manner, to speak of the agricultural resources of the country, and to recommend for their more full development, organized action, and the formation of agricultural societies; and if memory does not betray me, it was about this period of time that the first agricultural societies of this country were formed in old Berkshire and Philadelphia—(loud cheers by the delegates from Pennsylvania and Massachusetts)—and though I have never seen that unimportant production since that day, the partiality of any of my curious friends, (bowing and laughing) may be gratified by exploring amongst the archives of Marshfield. When, some thirty years ago, I went to Marshfield, some of my kind neighbors would call in to



enquire the state of politics in the South, and others to know a bit of law from 'the squire,' I told them 'I have come to reside among you as a farmer, and here I talk neither politics nor law.'

'Gentlemen, I am naturally a farmer; I am most ardently attached to agricultural pursuits; and though I cultivate my lands with some little care, yet from the sterility of the soil or from neglected husbandry on my own part, in consequence of my public engagements, they afford no subsistence to myself and family. To you farmers of the West and South, the soil of Marshfield may look barren and unfruitful. Sometimes the breezes of the broad Atlantic fan it, sometimes, indeed, unkindly suns smite it. But I love its quiet shades, and there I love to commune with you upon the ennobling pursuits in which we are so happily engaged. Gentlemen, I thank you for this visit with which you have honored me. My interests and my sympathies are identified with yours. I shall remember you and this occasion which has called you together. I invoke for you a safe return to your homes; I invoke for you an abundant harvest; and if we meet not again in time, I trust that hereafter we shall meet in a more genial clime and under a kindlier sun. Brother farmers, I bid you good morning.'

### Cutting food for Stock.

It is generally admitted to be good economy to cut hay for cattle, if it is of an inferior quality, much less being wasted by the animal; and it affords an excellent opportunity of mixing meal or shorts with it, by way of seasoning, making it more palatable as well as more nutritious. But many farmers have their doubts whether it pays to cut good hay, whether much benefit is derived from the operation in the way of rendering it more easy of digestion, &c. With a view to settle the question, the Worcester Agricultural society offered two premiums, of \$30 and \$20, for the best experiments on the subject, laying down the rules according to which the experiment should be conducted, which were briefly as follows:

'The trial to be made with at least two animals, as near alike in condition, age, &c., as possible, the time of trial to last at least eight weeks, divided into periods of two weeks each. One animal to be fed with cut while the other is fed with uncut hay; the feed of each to be reversed at the expiration of two weeks, and so on alternately each two weeks, during the trial. If any other food except hay be given, (such as roots or meal) the same quantity to be given to each, that the result in relation to the cutting the hay be not affected by other food. The animals to be kept in the same stable, and at the same temperature. Each animal to

be weighed at the commencement of each two weeks, and at the close of the experiment. The same kind of hay (what is usually called English hay) to be used during the whole time. The time of giving food and drink to be regular, and also of milking. The time of weighing to be in the morning, and before the animal has been allowed to drink.'

There were four competitors for the premiums—Messrs. Demond, Dodge, Lincoln and Hawes.

Mr. Demond's experiments were on two cows, seven years old; dried off the 17th of December 1851. The experiment commenced Jan. 1, 1852, and lasted eight weeks. In addition to the hay, each cow was allowed a half peck of turneps per day, or seven bushels to each cow during the experiment, which are considered equivalent to 58 lbs. of hay.

Mr. Dodge's experiments were with two steers, both three years old this spring. Trial commenced 3d of Jan. 1852, and continued eight weeks. Each steer, in addition to the hay, was given two quarts of meal per day, which is equivalent to 293 lbs. of hay for each steer during the eight weeks.

Mr. Lincoln's experiments were with two milch cows, four years old each; one calved the 14th and the other the 29th of June, 1851. Trial commenced 9th of Jan. 1852. In addition to the hay each cow eat 648 lbs. of carrots, equivalent to 171 lbs. of hay.

Mr. Hawes' experiments were on two working oxen, seven years old each this spring. Trial commenced 15th Dec., 1851. The cattle being kept regularly at hard work during the whole eight weeks of the experiment. They were allowed nothing but hay. The following table will show the final results of the experiments.

C. B. Demond, dry cows.		
Cut hay consumed in 8 weeks,	lbs.	lbs.
Uncut " " "	1147, gain 64	1147, " 56
Mean weight of animal 892 lbs.		
Harvey Dodge, steers.		
Cut hay consumed in 8 weeks,	916 gain 80	
Uncut " " "	943 " 60	
Mean weight of animal, 1110 lbs.		
W. S. Lincoln, Milch cows.		
Cut hay consumed in 8 weeks:	1150 gain 130	
Uncut, " " "	1130 " 30	
Milk from cut feed, 438 lbs. Do. uncut, 417 lbs.		
Mean weight of animal, 900 lbs.		
A. H. Hawes, working oxen.		
Cut hay consumed in 8 weeks,	2106 gain 137	
Uncut, " " "	2106 " 93	
Mean weight of animal, 1567 lbs.		

It is seen that in every one of the experiments there is a greater increase of animal from the cut than from the uncut hay; the difference in the quantity of milk is small, but in favor of the cut food. It is, in our opinion, to be regretted that the same animal was not kept on the same food during the whole length of the experiment, and not have changed them every two weeks, for in such a short period it is very

doubtful if the scales will at all indicate correctly the actual gain in fat or flesh of the animal. There is no doubt, however, but what the experiments were conducted with great care and accuracy, and the results are so uniform as to confirm the opinion of those who think it good economy to cut even *good* hay. Mr. Hawes makes the following remarks in his statement to the committee:

'A great advantage in cutting hay at least for working stock, was very obvious during the whole of this experiment; before the ox feeding on uncut hay had gotten one half through with his allowance, the ox which had cut feed had eaten up what was given him and was lying down taking his rest; and this at noon, when but little time is allowed for eating and rest, must be an advantage of no small importance.'

Mr. W. S. LINCOLN says:

'Sometime before commencing this experiment, I was feeding to my stock what would be called poor stock hay, with an allowance of roots. I commenced cutting this hay for all my stock, young and old, (16 head,) occupy me about an hour and a half daily. Almost simultaneously with feeding the cut hay was an increase of milk, very perceptible as it was milked in the pail. From day to day the milk increased so, from the stock I have described, as to require the substitution of six quart for four quart pans, which had been previously used. I think I am within bounds in saying that the increase was over a pint daily per cow, occasioned, to the best of my knowledge solely by the use of cut hay.'

The first premium was awarded to Mr. Lincoln, and the second to Mr. Hawes.

*Genesee Farmer.*

From the Bridgeport Farmer.

#### *A Few of the benefits of Agricultural Societies.*

The question is often asked, are Agricultural Societies any benefit to the people in general? I reply, they are. They hold annual Fairs, at which are exhibited everything new (or ought to be) under the sun. It is the Farmer's and Mechanic's holiday; they assemble together to see the works of their neighbors, to hear their experience, and to spend two or three days profitably and pleasantly.

Profitably, did I say? This puts me in mind of a conversation which took place between one of my neighbors and myself after returning from the Fair. I asked him why he did not attend.

*Neighbor.* O, I never went nor cared nothing 'bout goin,' and I aers thought 'twas time thrown away.

*Reply.* Perhaps you have not thoroughly investigated the matter, you only think of the days of the Fair and not of its benefits.

*N.* I don't see what benefits can come from spending two or three days and as many dollars in what you call an Agricultural Fair, my father aers got along well 'nuf, and he never went to one on 'um.

*R.* Let me explain to you a little. We will take the article of butter.—We offer a premium of five dollars for the best butter; a man who takes an agricultural paper long enough to see what is for his own interest brings in a sample of fine butter; he tells his breed of cows, the time the butter was made, the kind of feed the cows had, the number of times they was milked in a day, whether the butter was set in cold water or hot, the time the milk stood before skimming, the time the cream stood before churning, the number of times the butter was worked, the quantity of salt used, the manner of preserving the butter, &c. He gets the premium. Is not that a benefit.

*N.* O, yes, it helps him five dollars; but what oelp is that to any one else?

*R.* He brings in his statements; these are published in the newspapers, which are read by five hundred persons who make butter, they follow his example, and are therefore enabled to get two cents a pound more for it than if they had gone on in the old way. Now suppose that each made but 500 pounds a year, and gets two cents a pound extra; it gives him \$10 this multiplied by 500 the number of dairymen who read and follow this statement, we have \$5,000: now to know that you are doing so much good by taking your butter to the Fair, will it not compensate a man for his trouble.

*N.* Wal, you know that's one of the principal products of the farm, 'taint so with everything.

*R.* We will take fruits and see if that is not also a benefit. A few years since, Mr. — brought some Baldwin apples to our Fair and received the first premium: and what was the consequence? Why the following spring I went for some grafts, and he afterwards told me that he gave away all that were small enough for grafts, and he believed they would have taken the body of the tree if they could have used it. Those which I have obtained have commenced bearing, and if others have given away grafts as I have done, you can see how widely they have spread by this time. If a large apple which is beautiful to the eye and delicious to the taste, is any better than a small, mean, sour one, which to bite is enough to make a pig squeal, (I am sorry to say so many pigs will eat them) are not Agricultural Societies a benefit. I calculate the profits of taking this variety of fruit to the Fair is more than we can express; for who would have known that such fruit existed, if they had not seen it there? I have only spoken of one kind of fruit for exhibition, and are there no other kinds of fruit of equal importance?

N I guess that'll do on that pint.

R. If you are tired of fruit, we will feed on grain awhile. In the year 1849, I bought a few bushels of wheat, (wishing to change my seed) and finding it full of trash, I was obliged to spend two days in cleaning it, before it was fit to sow on any derent man's farm. The next year I had the finest piece of wheat I ever saw; so I took some to the Fair, and it was just the way to advertise it. It was looked at and admired by all, and wanted by many, so I sold all I had to spare for seed. It was so much better than common wheat that I obtained 25 cents more a bushel than my neighbors. So carrying my wheat to the Fair was putting money in my pocket; adding notority to my character, and more than all, it was the means of people's raising ten bushels of wheat where they formerly raised eight of trash. What do you think of our Agricultural Societies?

N. O, it'll do for you book farmers, but what good duz it do to take so many cattle and horses to the show?

R. What good does it do? Why, five years ago our Society offered a premium of \$5 for the best horse, and there were several exhibited, but none of them considered worthy of a premium. The next year the Society offered a premium of \$25 for the best horse, and the result was an ambitious enterprising man went and purchased the finest one he could find in the country. And why did he do it? Because he knew he could get the premium. There are now probably 500 descendants from this horse, each worth 25 dollars more than the same number were before this horse was brought into this part of the country. Here we have twelve thousand dollars. Will not that pay for spending two or three days at a Fair?

N. O, I don't know but 'twill do. But you have a plow match, where they most kill their oxen to see who can plow the fastest; what good duz that do?

R. Yes, you would most kill your oxen and yourself to have done what we did at our plowing match, with one of your old straight, wooden mould plows, such as I have seen among farmers who never saw a plowing match, or read an agricultural paper. Let us compare two farmers for one year, one with the old fashioned plow, the other with an improved steel plow. The old fashioned man, with the plow to match, has five acres of corn to plant. He goes into his field with his plow and tries to turn over the green soil; at every step the furrow wants a kick; and by working hard with hands and feet, he is enabled to root up a small patch in the course of the day. It takes him six days to stub over five acres.

It then takes him two days with his harrow to roll over the clods and try to mellow it up.

A great part of the sods which were disturbed by the plow, are now showing their green faces to the sun. Next he tries to plant it but his plow only skimmed the surface and the harrow has no loose mould—and consequently it takes seven days to plant it. At the first hoeing the corn looks as if it had the yellow fever—but he drags his old plow through, rhoving the clods over the corn, he spends seven days at each hoeing—but few at gathering.

We will now look at the other farmer, who has that quantity of land, the same kind of soil, and like it in every respect. He goes into his field, with his long, improved plow, and lays out his work. If the question is asked, are long plows better than short ones, I reply there are. If you wish to raise a horsehead of sugar two feet in height, does it not take much less force to raise the same, by rolling it only four feet? So with the plow—you raise the furrow much easier by having your plow three feet in length than you would if it was only one and a half. His plow cuts a furrow of equal width and about three inches more in depth than the common plow—instead of having one half roll back it leaves it nicely inverted. By having his plow run so much easier, and cutting such a nice straight furrow, he is enabled to save one day's work in the first plowing. As good plowing makes easy harrowing, he here saves another day's work with his team and still has his ground in good order for the reception of the seed.

When a field is thus commenced, the crop is easily taken care of through the season and all will agree with me in saying, that it will at least save two days work in planting and at each of the other three hoeings, or eight days in all: equal to eight dollars. Good plowing also helps to make a good crop—say six bushels to the acre or thirty bushels on the lot, which at sixty cents a bushel would be eighteen dollars. Here we see he saved twelve dollars in work, and makes eighteen dollars in his crop, equal to thirty dollars on the single field of corn—would not a good plow be of equal benefit to other crops?

The man with his improved plow is of course a member of the Agricultural Society. They hold a plowing match at some given time and two thousand men assemble to see the work performed. He comes with his improved plow, enters the contest comes off victorious, and receives the first prize. One fourth of these men present wishing to purchase a new plow, procure one like the one which received the prize, they use them on their farms the next season, and are benefited as the man mentioned above, to the amount of twelve dollars. This multiplied by one hundred: the number which buy new plows, we have 1200 dollars. Don't you think that the Agricultu-

ral Societies do some good?

N. Wall I don't know but they du—but I guess my wife's got dinner ready, so good morning.

### Rural Architecture.

We gave in our last number a short notice of L. F. Allen's recent work, and we cannot refrain from making some extracts for our readers this month, and we would take this occasion to recommend the work to every farmer, especially to those who design building:

It is the idea of some, that a house or building which a farmer or planter occupies, should, in shape, style, or character, be like some of the stored-up commodities of his farm or plantation. We cannot subscribe to this suggestion. We know of no good reason why the walls of a farm house should appear like a hay rick, or its roof like the thatched covering to his wheat stacks, because they are the shapes best adapted to preserve his crops, any more than the grocer's habitation should be made to imitate a tea chest, or the shipping merchant's a rum puncheon, or cotton bale.—

We have an idea that the farmer, or the planter, according to his means and requirements, should be as well housed and accommodated, and in as agreeable style, too, as any other class of community; not in like character, in all things, to be sure, but in his own proper way and manner. Nor do we know why a farm house should assume a peculiarly primitive or uncultivated style of architecture, from other sensible houses. That it be a *farm* house, is sufficiently apparent from its locality upon the farm itself; that its interior arrangement be for the convenience of the in-door farm work, and the proper accommodation of the farmer's family, should be quite as apparent, but, that it should assume an uncouth or clownish aspect, is as unnecessary as that the farmer himself should be a boor in his manners, or a dolt in his intellect.

There are found in the older States many farm and country houses that are almost models, in their way, for convenience in the main purposes required of structures of their kind, and such as can hardly be altered for the better. Such, however, for the exception, not the rule; yet instead of standing as objects for imitation, they have been ruled out as antiquated, and unfit for modern builders to consult, who have in the introduction of some real improvements, also left out, or discarded much that is valuable, and where true comfort is concerned, indispensable to perfect housekeeping.

Alteration is not always improvement, the rage for innovation of all kinds, among much that is valuable, a great deal in

house-building has been introduced that is absolutely pernicious. Take, for instance, some of our ancient-looking country houses of the last century, which, in America, we call old. See their ample dimensions; their heavy, massive walls; their low, comfortable ceilings; their high gables; sharp roofs; deep porches and spreading eaves, and contrast them with the ambitious, tall, proportionless and card-sided things of a modern date, and draw the comparison in true comfort, which the ancient mansion really affords by the side of the other. Bating its huge chimneys, its wide fire-places, its heavy beams dropping below the ceiling overhead, and the lack of some modern conveniences, which, to be added, would give all that is desired, and every man possessed of a proper judgment will concede the superiority to the house of the last century.

Another difficulty with us is, that we often build to gratify the eyes of the public than our own, and fit up our dwellings to accommodate "company" or visitors, rather than our own families; and in the indulgence of this false notion, subject ourselves to perpetual inconvenience for the gratification of occasional happiness or ostentation. This is all wrong. A house should be planned and constructed for the use of the household, with *incidental* accommodation for our immediate friends or guests—which can always be done without sacrifice to the comfort or convenience of the regular inmates. In this remark, a stinted and parsimonious spirit is not suggested. A liberal appropriation of rooms in every department; a spare chamber or two, or an additional room on the ground floor, looking to a possible increase of family, and the indulgence of an easy hospitality, should always govern the resident of the country in erecting his dwelling. The enjoyment of society and the intercourse of friends, sharing for the time, our own table and fireside, is a crowning pleasure of country life; and all this may be done without extraordinary expense, in a wise construction of the dwelling.

There is again a grand error which many fall into in building, looking as they do only at the extent of wood and timber, or stone and mortar in the structure, and paying no attention to the surroundings, which, in most cases contribute more to the effect of the establishment than the structure itself, and which, if uncultivated or neglected, any amount of expenditure in building will fail to give that completeness and perfection of character which every homestead should command. Thus the tawdry erections in imitation of a cast-off feudalism in Europe, or a copying of the massive piles of more recent date abroad, although in miniature, both in extent and cost, is the sheer-



est affectation, in which no sensible man should ever indulge. It is out of all keeping, or propriety with other things, as we in this country have them, and the indulgence of all such fancies will, sooner or later, be regretted. Substance, convenience, purpose, harmon—all, perhaps, better summed up in the term expression—these are the objects which should govern the construction of our dwellings and our out-buildings, and in their observance we can hardly err in the acquisition of what will promote the highest enjoyment which a dwelling can bestow.

### INDUSTRIAL CONVENTION.

Tuesday, June 7, 1852.

Pursuant to a call by the committee appointed for that purpose by the Granville Convention last autumn, a number of gentlemen met at the court house in Springfield on Tuesday, the 8th inst. at nine o'clock, to consider the subject, appropriate education for the industrial classes. The meeting was temporarily organized by the appointment of Prof. J. B. TURNER as President, and W. H. POWELL as Secretary.

On motion of Professor Evans of Chicago, the President stated what was in the opinion of the committee who called the convention, the qualifications necessary to membership. There still remains some doubt on this subject. Dr. J. A. Kennicott, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, that all delegates be considered members of this convention, who, by their own showing, are the friends of practical industrial education, and who desire the concentration of the means and influences for that purpose.

The resolution was adopted.

On motion—A committee of three were appointed to nominate permanent officers for the convention; to report at the afternoon session. Messrs. E. R. Roe, Joseph Norton, and John Hise were appointed that committee.

On motion—A committee was appointed to arrange the business of the convention. The chair appointed Messrs. Powell, Kennett, and Selby that committee.

The meeting then adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock, P. M., at the same place.

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2 o'clock, P. M.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

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Secretary, W. H. POWELL, of La Salle.

The Committee on Business reported as follows:

1st.—The consideration of the principles of a practical education, with a view of gaining some definite idea of the object to be aimed at by the Convention.

2nd.—The consideration of the plan submitted J. B. Turner to the Granville Convention, with the view of ascertaining its adaptation to the proposed object.

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The report was received and adopted, and on motion, the consideration of the 2nd proposition was made the special order of the meeting to be held at the State House in the evening.

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WEDNESDAY MORNING, June 9,

Convention convened according to adjournment, and was called to order by the President.

The resolution made the special order of the session was read by the Secretary.

On motion of Prof. Turner the discussion of the resolution made the special order of the session was waived, and Professor Evans requested to develop his plans to the Convention.

Mr. Little of the House then addressed the Convention.

He said he had for years revolved the idea for an Industrial Convention to educate the masses. He was of them himself, though circumstances had made him a professional man. Such an institution, if once properly endowed and placed on a permanent basis by the State, would support itself. As a member of the Legislature he would probably be called upon to cast his vote on the subject, and he wanted to put himself right before the convention. He was decidedly opposed to distributing the fund among the several colleges now in existence. He believed that the establishment of an Industrial University was a feasible scheme. The commencement might be small. He cared not how small. It might commence in a log school house. It would grow. All great undertakings must meet at the outset with opposition. He was glad to see opposition here. It bespoke success in the end. He believed if the State refused to aid the enterprise, the People themselves would do it alone.

Professor Wood moved that the Speakers be confined to ten minutes.

Mr. Little moved to amend by substituting 'fifteen minutes.'

Mr. Lumsden moved 'thirty.'

Dr. Roe moved 'three hours.' He wanted the speakers to have time to blow out.

It was finally decided to limit the speakers to fifteen minutes.

Prof. Wood was in favor of making its Professorship permanent. He also wanted a central organ of communication. It would be the greatest organ of general and scientific intelligence in the known world.

Professor Turner submitted that the professional classes now have nine institutions in the State, and the laboring classes not one.

The plan was warmly discussed by the friends of both methods.

Mr. Lumsden was opposed to the plan of Prof. Evans *in toto*. He especially opposed the idea of the itinerant professorships, and characterized them as travelling menageries. He desired to know whether it was intended that the States should furnish geographical cabinets, chemical apparatus, etc., or whether each professor was to *back* his own collection, and transport them in his semi-annual pilgrimage from college to college. In the former alternative, he was of opinion that the frightful

expense, which had been so much dwelt upon, of furnishing the one institution proposed by Professor Turner's plan, would sink into insignificance compared with the *nine* complete equipments required for the distribution plan. Mr. L. moved to lay the plan on the table. A scene of considerable confusion followed. Some protesting against the motion as not giving the plan a fair hearing, while as many more insisted on passing the motion. Finally the question was taken by yeas and nays, and decided in the affirmative.

Adjourned till 2 P. M.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Immediately on Convention being called to order, Prof. Turner offered the following resolution.

That the Chair appoint a committee of five, including the President of the Convention to memorialize the Legislature for a State Industrial University.

The Chair stated that the resolution was introduced as a compromise, and that it was proposed to frame the memorial without reference to any specific place, and that the understanding was, there should be no debate so that the Convention should at once conclude the business and go home.

Dr. Evans enquired whether the Chair would give an equal voice in the committee to the friends of the plan proposed.

The Chair said it could make no pledges.

Dr. Roe then moved to amend the resolution by adding 'that Prof. J. B. Turner, Dr. Evans, Prof. Wood and W. H. Powell should be the said Committee.'

The amendment was not agreed to, and the vote taken on the resolution which was carried.

Dr. Roe protested against the adoption of this resolution. It was a trick to suppress all further discussion, and to throw the whole matter in the hands of Prof. Turner's plan, and he declared his intention to take no further part in the proceedings of the Convention.

Prof. Cummings of Lebanon College also protested against the proceedings.

The gentlemen dissenting left the Convention.

Professor Evans expressed his sincere regret that he was compelled to leave the Convention as he was really friendly to the movement, and only opposed the 'The Plan.'

The following was the committee.

J. B. Turner, John Hise, Oaks Turner, Mr. Little of Fulton, A. Adams of Kane, The Convention excusing the Chair for acting upon committee.

On motion of W. H. Powell the Chair appointed the following corresponding committees.

W. H. Powell,	of	LaSalle,
C. C. Bonney,	of	Peoria.

Prof. Turney,	of	Jacksonville.
A. C. Bonney,	"	Quincy.
Moses Osman,	"	Ottawa.
Dr. N. S. Davis,	"	Chicago.
Simeon Francis,	"	Springfield.
L. L. Bullock,	"	Point Republic.

The Convention leaving it discretionary to the Chair to add such other names as it might seem proper.

The following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Whereas—In our opinion the common school system of the State of Illinois, is radically defective, inasmuch as it fails to secure the means of school instruction to all of the children of the State. Therefore—

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to digest a better system of common schools for Illinois, and to memorialize the State at its next regular session, upon the subject.

The Chair appointed the following gentlemen said committee.

Evans, Roe, Powell, Adams, and John Davis.

Permission was given to the officers to call another convention, at such time and place as they might deem proper.

A vote of thanks was tendered to the officers of the convention for the able and impartial manner in which they had conducted the business of the convention.

On motion the Convention adjourned *sine die*. JOHN A. KENNICOTT, President.

W. H. POWELL, Secretary.

#### WANTED—A FARM SCHOOL.

Among the mooted questions which our best practical farmers, after a discussion of years, have been unable to settle to their own or any body else's satisfaction, is the comparative value for feeding purposes, of hay—cut and uncut. Now we want no better evidence of the necessity of science, or system applied to agricultural operations than is afforded by this unsettled question. The men who are claimed to be the only practical farmers—the only farmers worthy of the name—have had possession of the land of Massachusetts, and of the cattle and its thousand hills, since the Pilgrims put foot on Plymouth, for 232 years, and they have raised and fed and slaughtered hundreds of thousands of bulls and bullocks and sheep and swine; but to this day are unable to tell how much feed it takes to make one pound of pork or beef; or what, of all kinds of fodder—Indian corn, the general stand by, alone excepted—is the most economical.

Now science, as advocated by this Journal—not simply the science of the schools, but science in its widest sense—would long since have settled this, and other kindred questions.

This science, which we preach and strive to practice, requires system in every step: each appropriation on the farm then, becomes an experiment; the farm is one vast laboratory; earth, air and water are the elements in which we deal; every hour is one of pleasant anxiety, every season brings with it its stock of doubts to solve, and produces its crop of knowledge gained. The farmer's life becomes one of constant and healthful interest; his mind, like his body, grows strong by labor, and he stands forth among his fellow men at least their compeer in intellectual, as in physical vigor.

It is mean and cowardly to shrink from the hearing and telling of wholesome truth; and though Tray, Blanch and Sweetheart may bark at us, we feel it in our inmost bones, and are therefore not afraid to declare it, that despite our boasts—despite our motto, that 'Agriculture is the noblest occupation of man'—we neither are, nor do we feel ourselves to be the equal of many of our fellow men, of other professions; and what is bad, too, they do not deem us their equals. Let the man who doubts this postpone his huffiness for a few moments and put to himself the question, 'of two sons, one of them eminent as a lawyer, commanding the admiration and respect of the country, by his abilities; the other a farmer, following in his father's footsteps at the plow; of which are you most proud? Whose opinion goes farthest with you? Who has the most weight in the State?' The professional son, without doubt. 'Tis the same if he were a pious and learned divine, or a well read and skilful physician, or an ingenious and reliable mechanic.

There is not one of the leading occupations of men that does not call into more active exercise the mental faculties of those engaged in it than our own. The faculties, like our sinews, are strengthened by the exercise; and in this land, where 'the mind is the measure of the man,' and labor is honorable, he is most honored whose mind most labors.

Fellow farmers, let us pray you to meet this question on its merits, and as, from its importance, it deserves to be met; and not with hoots and hugs. There exists no reason under heaven, why the farmer should not be the intellectual equal of the proudest statesman, or the most profound philosopher; and why should he not be thus elevated by the very necessities of his profession; except that we have voluntarily degraded agriculture to the level of any ordinary drudgery, by claiming for its pursuit no other qualification than bodily strength, and a capacity to walk in the cider-mill-track of a settled routine. We have doomed our children too, to be drudges for life, mere automata, following, machine like, the movements of some model—instead of using the reason which the lord of the harvest implanted in the minds of husbandmen, as of



others. And if, as wise and holy men have thought, the kind, if not the degree of happiness which heaven affords, depends upon the bent of our minds here, do we not rob those who look up to us for instruction by precept and example, of what we can never return to them.

Let us now lug in the two sons again, for an illustration. Why is it that the one intended for a profession is sent to school and to college to be thoroughly educated, and the other is put on the farm, as soon as he has learned to spell cow with a k, and to imitate in his hand writing the travels of a half drowned fly escaped from an inkstand?

It is because you know that education is necessary to the advancement of the professional man, and because you believe that it will not aid the farmer. This is a woful error. Napoleon declared that of two armies, otherwise equal, that which was the most intelligent would surely be superior, and he proved it by dashing to atoms the machine men of Alexandre the Great, and all others built after the same model. If then, an active, enlightened mind is an aid to the soldier in the rude shock of war, when brute force on the part of the rank and file is supposed to be alone necessary, why should it not be an advantage to the plowman? and if the plowman, why not the sower and the husbandman? why not the farmer who is to direct the animal force on his farm?

Let farmers then, accustom themselves to regard as a necessity a good farm school, where their sons may be educated in all the branches which will benefit them in their future pursuit, and enable them to elevate their calling, and themselves to a rightful position. Here, and here alone, can be carefully examined and answered questions like that with which this article commenced. Individuals may endeavor to settle these and similar questions. But few that have the will have the pecuniary ability, the facility and perseverance required; and the results obtained will not be as satisfactory or as reliable, as those furnished by an institution, where system is known to direct every branch and every single operation.—*Jour. of Agriculture.*

### Fancy Farmers.

The leading object with a large majority of farmers is to make their profession profitable.—Occasionally we meet with one who cultivates his land rather as a matter of relaxation and pastime, than with a desire to increase his means; but such cases are exceptions. If then, farming is as a general thing, pursued with an eye to profit, it becomes a matter of serious enquiry how this object may be most effectually accomplished. One of the secrets which lies at the very foundation of successful and

profitable husbandry is strict method in all the operations of the farms, coupled with untiring energy and proper economy. The methodical tiller of the soil—he who carefully matures his plans before putting them into practice, weighing well the chances of profit or loss; who calculates as nearly as may be the results likely to follow the adoption of a particular system; or in other words, the farmer who conducts his daily operations understandingly he it is who has fallen upon the pathway to success. It is amusing at times to listen to the self-satisfied projects of men who, having become wearied of their pursuits, looks to farming as the last hope, the only calling which promises reward when those already tried have failed. They speak of it with all the confidence and assurance of men whose whole lives have been spent in tilling the soil—promising to themselves and their friends such results as veteran farmers never dared to look for. With them, farming is the business of a day. They talk of engaging in it as men talk of putting on a new coat, and without further reflection invest their money in lands—plunge headlong into the mazes of agriculture, and in a few years wake up to the mortifying consciousness of having most egregiously mistaken their calling. Such is the brief history of thousands of foolish men—men who have never thought it worth while to enquire whether anything more was requisite to constitute them successful farmers than a certain number of acres of land and the necessary amount of stock and implements.

It is to such fancy farmers as these that agricultural literature owes many of its opponents. Possessed neither of practical skill or judgment; with a shallow smattering of book knowledge, their inflated boastings of what they intend doing in the first place, their spasmodic efforts to make good their boastings in the second place, disgusts the practical farmer and leads him to undervalue the advantages which he, by combing the scientific with the practical, might realize. To those who are desirous of adopting farming as a profession, we beg leave to say, ponder the subject well before you undertake it. Discard the idea that every man is fitted to be a farmer. If you are of methodical habits, economical and industrious and persevering; if you are possessed of an investigating spirit, anxious to know the why and the wherefore. the cause and effect of things transpiring around you daily, if you feel that having put your hand to the plow you will not turn back again, then farming will suit you. If you possess not these qualifications, take our advice and turn your eye in some other direction, for there is no pursuit in which an indolent, pleasure seeking, unmethodical, merely theoretical man is so little likely to succeed, as that of agriculture.—*Pa. Farm Journal.*



From Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

**BUTTER MAKING.**

BY A FARMER'S WIFE.

I do not attempt the consideration of this subject in the expectation of adding any new and important facts, but to contribute my 'mite' to the general stock of knowledge already gained, and to note down a few plain and simple facts for those who are, or expect to be dairy-women in a small way. It seems to be a subject that requires 'line upon line,' to induce people to practice upon the principle that good butter can be no more profitably made than poor butter.

Something more than twenty years ago, I took upon myself the responsibilities of a farmer's wife, as too many others have done, without an adequate knowledge of its requirements and duties. I thought any one who was cleanly, could make good butter; a process so simple, that *skill* was quite unnecessary. I therefore undertook the management of the milk of ten or twelve cows, with all the confidence of ignorance. A few weeks convinced me that more knowledge and judgment were necessary than I had anticipated, to produce the *very best butter*.

Among my neighbors was a woman who had been for years a dairy-woman in an extensive dairy in England. An old lady somewhat fastidious in taste, whom we supplied with butter, observed that she would ensure to us among her friends, two cents a pound above the market price, as soon as my butter could equal Mrs. P.'s, (the woman above alluded to,) in quality. Here was a direct appeal to a motive that always responds. I accordingly sought Mrs. P.'s advice. Said she, 'Lay down a few plain rules; experience and observation will do the rest.'

'Let all milk vessels, be perfectly clean and free from acidity; a good circulation of pure air, without having the wind blow on the milk; skim the milk before it turns sour, never letting the milk thicken with the cream on, churning often enough to prevent the cream from getting sour; churn *moderately*, work the butter clear of butter-milk, salt with from one to one and a quarter ounces of *fine sifted salt*, to 1 lb. of fresh butter; let the butter stand twenty-four hours, then mould and prepare your butter for market, and depend upon it, you will have a first rate article.'

'Do you not have to wash your butter a great deal in warm weather to get out the butter-milk?' I enquired.

'No,' said she, 'such practice ruins the butter, it washes out the sweetness; I never allow any water to touch my butter; sometimes I put a piece of ice, or cold spring water in the churn, but I do not like to do even that.'

By close observation of these rules, combin-

ed with ambition to excel, and get the highest prices before the first season was over, I succeeded in bringing my butter to the required standard. I still thought Mrs. P. rather whimsical in her opposition to washing butter, and could not help accusing her of a little obstinacy. I at length became convinced that she was right. I then knew nothing of the chemical process by which the sweetness was washed out of the butter, but such I found to be the fact. I found, too, that the use of water injured the butter for keeping. By repeated experiments, it was found that of two jars of butter treated precisely alike, excepting that one was washed and the other unwashed, after being kept thro' the winter, the unwashed would invariably prove to be the best. Chemical analysis has repeatedly shown that the sugar which forms an ingredient in all milk and cream, is dissolved and lost in the water, thereby detracting from it that delicious sweetness that all butter should possess.

I know that a small farmer who keeps but two or three cows cannot always command the advantages of more extended means. But if two cows only are kept, it is quite as important to the owner that they should be good ones and yield good butter in proportion to the money invested, as it would be if he were able to keep twenty. There are few situations, where sufficient accommodations cannot be obtained, by a small outlay of what the Yankees call 'contrivance,' to enable a careful, observing woman, to make the very best butter. I cannot see any good reason why so much poor butter is made and carried to market, when a little more care and attention would produce an article that any woman might be proud to call her work.

It is so much more convenient too, to supply individual families, and take the money for your butter, than to have that which you are obliged to solicit grocers to buy, and then be paid in their goods, at their own prices.

I am much inclined to think that what we have gained in *time*, by the introduction of churns that will produce butter with five or ten minutes labor, has been over-balanced by loss in *quality and quantity*. I have used 'Gault's Churn,' but will not say that there is none better, but with that I have found *rapid churning* would always injure the quality of the butter. As to what is denominated *cooking butter*, which is but another name for rancid, worthless stuff, such an article should never be used in any kind of food, as all experience shows that it is decidedly unwholesome, and spoils the taste of anything in which it becomes an ingredient. If by accident or from other causes, butter becomes rancid, consign it to the receptacle for 'soap grease,' and enter the amount on the page of 'losses.'

When a good spring of water can be cou-

manded, a very little expense will make it a valuable auxiliary in the making of good butter. Here I would say a few words about vessels in which to set milk. If the arrangements allow of setting the pans in running water, I prefer the stone crocks of the potteries, perfectly glazed, made a little larger at the top than at the bottom. The only reason why they are preferable to tin, is the liability of the latter to rust, from continual contact with the water. In all other situations, I believe tin is the best of anything we can at present use, both on account of cleanliness and economy. I presume at some future time, glass will come into use for that purpose, and there is no doubt it is better for milk than any other material, or will be, when it can be manufactured sufficiently cheap and strong. A few years ago, when zinc was highly recommended for milk pans, my husband was desirous that I should give them a trial; I did so, and directly found that the least acidity would decompose enough of the zinc to color that portion of the milk that settled at the bottom when the milk began to turn sour, rendering them wholly unfit for the purpose.

Many persons complain of being unable to make yellow butter in winter. Some cows will yield yellow butter at all seasons, others not at any season; much, however, depends upon the kind of food given to the cow. I think the freezing of milk takes the color out, and injures the butter. I prefer setting milk where it will not freeze till the cream has all risen; next to that, I like the practice of scalding the milk till the minute bubbles begin to rise from the bottom of the pan, then let it stand from twelve to eighteen hours, when the cream will be all at the top in a rich mass that may be curd; hence the name, 'clotted cream,' which always yields a large quantity of butter in proportion to its bulk, with a very little churning. I have seen a bowl of this cream converted into butter by stirring with a common table-spoon in three minutes. The butter has a peculiar sweetness, and the cream is considered a great delicacy, particularly among English people, eaten with fruit at dessert.

Any desired shade of yellow can be given to winter butter without in the least injuring the flavor, by grating an Altringham carrot into a little milk and strained into the cream. I mention this kind of carrot because it is higher colored, and consequently less of the juice is required. A little practice must regulate the quantity. The yolk of a fresh egg, well beaten, to two quarts of cream, will produce the same result.

**INSECTS AND PEAR BLIGHT.**—Prof. Turner, of Illinois, thinks he has discovered the cause of the western pear and apple blight. He finds little white specks on all parts of the tree—as

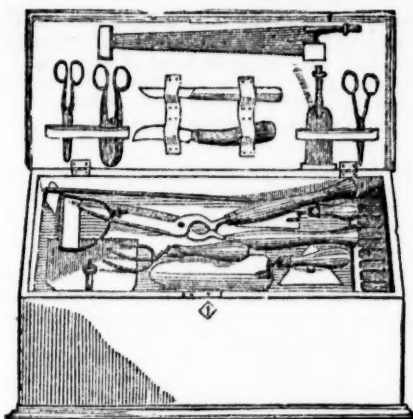
every one has observed—but some of these are larger than the rest, appearing like a 'mite of mould' on the bark. This he finds, by the use of the microscope, to contain 'infinitesimal' eggs in vast numbers, which subsequently hatch into microscopic insects. They appear to exclude the poison, which destroys the bark beneath, leaving small holes like the prick of an awl, and are in short the cause of the blight, that is, in other words, death. As many close observers, with powerful microscopes, have never discovered these punctures in diseased trees, we may fairly infer, that if these insects cause the death of Prof. Turner's trees, they do not of most other people's. He has tried ineffectually to destroy them with 'soap, ley, ashes, lime, copperas, sulphur, plaster, tobacco, spirits turpentine, salt, coal-tar, charcoal, asafetida, and a whole apothecary shop of other drugs.' He calls for the observations and experiments of others. He proposes for this insect the elegant name of 'pear devil.'

*Albany Cultivator.*

### Weeds.

'One year's' seeding,  
'Makes seven years' weeding.'

What are weeds made for? To keep the boys out of mischief. Is not that it, boys?—Every thing was made for some purpose—nothing made in vain. The earth and air contain the elements of all life, and where nothing useful grows, nature supplies herself with a covering of weeds. They never forget us—never forget to grow. Who cannot vouch for the truth of the old adage above. They are most unmerciful tormentors of one's ease.—For when you would take a cool seat in the vine covered veranda, which faces the garden, to contemplate for an hour the beautiful plants and flowers, bursting with life, you encounter the impudent gaze of an army of weeds. Rest and ease are out of the question for no farmer who has a conscience and the least particle of Combativeness can feel at ease until the intruders are removed out of decent company. Again after your wheat, oats, &c., are secured and you feel a sort of disposition to retire upon your income and become a gentleman farmer for life, you think you will take a stroll through your rich corn field, which you left as clean as an onion bed just before harvest, and what a sight to behold! Weeds as thick as 'hair on a dog's back,' and going to seed. You conclude that there is no safety as long as there is warmth in the rays of 'old Sol;' that to keep free from such neighbors they have got to be watched by day and by night, for like the semi-savage Algerines, if defeated one day they are ready for fight the next. They must be watched and fought and fought until old winter more potent freezes them to death as some farmers do their cattle.



HEALTH—GARDENING TOOLS.

How much, suppose you, kind reader, is expended annually by the people of these States, in running to watering-places by persons in the cities, seeking health and amusement, and by persons in the country making their annual visits to the city to catch the fashions and enjoy a few days' excitement amid strange scenes and modes of life? The sum would unquestionably be enormous, while the utility of such a resort, taking morals into the account on one hand, and the loss or waste of time on the other, is somewhat doubtful.

It is certainly a partial loss, when time is devoted to a particular object in pursuit of health and amusement, if that time might be given to some useful employment in which health and spirits would be promoted in an equal or greater degree, and at the same time some profit gained.

Men seek these places of resort as their only refuge from the dust and toil of the city; but they come like angels visits, few and far between, and do not, after all, answer the purpose desired. They need some daily call, to turn them from their passing cares, some balm for the agitation of politics or commerce, or mechanic life; some cheap, attractive, and yet useful and profitable amusement.

It seems to us that nothing will satisfy this want like a *Garden*. We have often spoken in these columns of its beauty, its home attractions and moral influence. Its profit will soon be manifest to him who cultivates it. Then the modes of communication are so frequent and rapid, that it is convenient and cheap to live in the country, and nearly every man who desires it may obtain a rood of land, where his leisure hours can be occupied in the midst of his family, and where he could cultivate the graces in his children while cultivating his plants. This occupation would come daily,

make no demands upon the purse for travelling expenses, hotel bills, porters and other extras, but on the contrary bring health, calm contentment, and spread the table with bountiful supplies of wholesome, nutritive vegetables.

Looking at the convenient arrangement and beautiful collection of Garden Implements exhibited in a collection gathered in a chest, suggested these reflections:—To enjoy garden or farm operation, one must have good tools to work with. In this collection we find the pruning saw, chisel and hook, with screw pointed handle; the hoe, rake and scuffle; the tree scraper, pruning scissors and knife, vine-scissors, budding-knife, flower gatherer, hammer, twig-cutter, grass or hedge shears, weeding fork, transplanting and weeding trowel, a garden reel and floral hoe-rake.

Shades of the 'old gardeners,' if you could see these, you would sigh for your old haunts again. Who is there that ever plucked a rose or dug a potato, that would not be attracted to the delightful employments of the garden by such a display? But we will only stop to say that this chest may be found at the warehouse of Messrs. Ruggles, Nourse, Mison & Co., Quincy Hall, Boston. We will add this, however, CULTIVATE A GARDEN—tools chest or not. *New England Farmer*.

Our readers can obtain this, as well as various other useful articles in that line, at the warehouse of Plant & Salisbury, corner Fourth and Green streets.

### SWINE.

'As dirty as a pig,' describes, in most men's vocabulary, their 'ne plus ultra' of personal uncleanness. It is a great, but a common error, this, that a hog is naturally and of choice a filthy animal, delighting in a mud-bath, as the greatest of sublimity luxuries; and be-coating himself with mire, as proudly as the veriest dandy would broadcloth himself *a-la-mode*. A hog, if reared in a respectable manner and washed of a Saturday night, with the rest of the children, will do no discredit to his bringing-up, but may chance to shame many of his masters, by the decency of his appearance. Kept clean by an occasional washing, and the privilege of neat apartments for his noon-tide nap and nightly snooze, the hog repays with interest the feed and care bestowed on him. He thrives better thus, than when forced to wallow in the mire;—for he seeks the mud-medicated bath, merely to allay the irritation of his skin. If you keep his hide clean, he will no longer need it, and no longer seek it; unless a bad early education prevails over his natural swinish notions of neatness. We have tried thoroughly, the plan of keeping hogs clean, by washing and by good pens and

nice litter; and we have found an advantage in it.

'As drunk as a sow,' is another proverb, which unjust and ingenious man has invented and perpetuated to keep himself in countenance. 'David's sow,' is sometimes particularized. Now it is a fact, that may be new to many of our readers, that the hog, in his anatomical structure, his diseases, and in many of his habits, approaches more nearly to man, than any other of our domestic animals. Inasmuch that surgeons, hard run for human subjects whereupon to lecture and demonstrate to their journeyman-saw-bones, have frequently selected a pig to occupy the vacant table.—Very many of their diseases are identical with our own. And their habits,—their laziness, their omnivorous appetite, their clamorous urgency for kitchen drippings—are certainly very like to those of many of our own kind—we won't specify politicians. But in the matter of the Maine law, they shame, in their practice, the professions of some of its most wide-mouthed friends. The hog is a 'much abused people.'

In feeding swine, men should use judgment. A hog wants his meals regularly; or he worries and squeals off an ounce or two of fat. In early youth, when weaned from the maternal teat and up to the age of six months, at least, he should be allowed the largest liberty consistent with circumstances. Exercise expands and develops his frame, and fits it to carry more flesh and fat; and ensures to the pig a good constitution. Having attained a sufficient size, he may be penned and gradually fed more and more; and when once fat should not be allowed to lose a pound. Regularity and repose are now necessary to ensure the most satisfactory state of obesity.

Clover is an excellent fodder for swine. On clover and water alone, a well-bred pig will become a very Daniel Lambert of a pig.—Green corn may follow clover; and as fall fades into winter, push in the meal. This is the mode of feeding which we have seen adopted with the most entire success, for large herds; where were no facilities for butter-milk or other will, that many farmers have in abundance. At the South and West, the swine feed their own living; and, 'not knowing, can't say,' whether their owners would or would not find it to their advantage to have a little more system in their swine-feeding.

The breeds of swine now most valued, at the North, are the Suffolk and the Middlesex.—These two are very like in every respect; and after having bred both for many years, we would not give 'the toss-up of a copper, for a choice.' To be general favorites, they have hardly size enough. Though their early maturity, small consumption of food, and wonderful inclination to fatness, more than com-

pensate, in cash, for their want of size. Suffolk pigs have been slaughtered, at 6 months old, that weighed three hundred and ninety-four pounds. No man need have a finer breed than this. If he wants a bigger breed, let him select one of those Noah's Ark race, that weigh eight hundred dressed (at Methuseleh's age,) and try to make a breed by using a full blood Suffolk, Middlesex, or Essex boar. We wonder that no one has imported the Leicestershires, to graffify this taste for lare swine.—*Journal of Commerce.*

**TRICKS OF ANIMALS.**—In breaking or managing a horse, however intractable or stubborn his temper may be, preserve your own. Almost every fault he has arises from ignorance. Be patient with him, teach and coax him, and success, in time is, certain. There are tricks, however, which are the result of confirmed habits or viciousness, and these, sometimes require a different treatment. A horse accustomed to starting and running away, may be effectually cured by putting him at the top of his speed on such occasions, and running till pretty thoroughly exhausted.

A horse that had a trick of pulling his bridle and breaking it, was at last reduced to better habits by tying him tightly to a post driven on the bank of a deep stream, with his tail pointing to the water; he commenced pulling at the halter which suddenly parted; over the bank he tumbled, and after a somerset or two, and floundering awhile in the water, he was satisfied to remain at his post in future, and break no more bridles.

A ram has been cured of butting at everything and everybody, by placing an irresistible effigy in a similar position; the sudden assault on a wintry day then resulted in tumbling his ramship into a cold bath, which his improved manner took good care to avoid in future.

A sheep-killing dog has been made too much ashamed ever again to look a sheep in the face, by tying his legs a stout ram on the brow of a hill, while the flock were quietly feeding at the bottom. The ram being free and in haste to rejoin his friends, tumbled and thumped master Tray so sadly over the stones and gullies, that he was quite satisfied to confine himself to cooked mutton thereafter.

Man's reason was given him to control 'the beasts of the field and birds of the air,' by other means than by force. If he will bring this into play, he will have no difficulty in meeting and overcoming every emergency of preverse instinct or bad habit in the dumb things, by his superior cunning.

☞ The whole world has taken the place of Rome in granting indulgences to the rich.

☞ The excesses of our youth are drafts upon our old age, payable with interest.



# The Valley Farmer.

EPHRAIM ABBOTT, Editor.

Editor's office and Printing office, Third street, corner Pine

ST. LOUIS, AUGUST, 1852.

## The Law of Newspapers.

1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary, are considered wishing to continue their subscriptions.
2. If subscribers order the discontinuance of their papers, the publisher may continue to send them till arrears are paid.
3. If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their papers from the offices where they are directed, they are held responsible until they have ordered them discontinued and settled their bills.
4. If subscribers remove to other places without informing the publisher, and the paper is sent to the former direction, they are held responsible.
5. The courts have decided that refusing to take a paper or periodical from the office, or removing and leaving it unclaimed for while in arrears to the publisher, is evidence of intentional fraud.
6. Any person who receives a paper and makes use of it whether he has ordered it sent or not, is held in law to be a subscriber.

**STATE FAIRS.**—The following are times and places of holding State Fairs, the present fall. It will be seen that visitors to the east from the west may attend four or five of these Fairs in succession without going over any ground the second time.

- Vermont, at Rutland, Sept. 1, 2, 3.  
 New-York, at Utica, Sept. 7, 8, 9, 10.  
 American Pomological Congress at Philadelphia, Sept. 13.  
 Ohio, at Cleveland, Sept. 15, 16, 17.  
 Rhode Island Society of Improvement, at Providence, Sept. 15, 16, 17.  
 Michigan, at Detroit, Sept. 22, 23, 24.  
 Canada West, at Toronto, Sept. 21, to 24.  
 American Institute, at New York, Oct. 5.  
 " Exhibition of Stock, 19, 20, 21  
 Wisconsin, at Milwaukee, Oct. 6, 7, 8.  
 New Hampshire, Oct. 6, 7, 8.  
 Georgia, Oct. 18 to 23.  
 Pennsylvania, at Lancaster, Oct. 20, 21, 22.  
 Indiana, at Indianapolis, Oct. 19, 20, 21.

**THE PRAIRIE FARMER.**—The July number of this sterling periodical contains the valedictory of A. WIGG, Esq. who has been associated with its editorial department from its commencement—more than ten years ago. Mr. W. we believe is concerned in the publication of a religious paper at Chicago, and we presume it is to devote himself more exclusively to it that he retires from the farmer. Our best and kindest wishes follow him into his new vocation. Under the direction of its

present conductors, Messrs. WRIGHT & HAVEN, the Prairie Farmer will still hold its high rank among the agricultural publications of the land.

**AGRICULTURAL MEETING IN PETTIS.**—The following account of the meeting in Pettis county was received too late for insertion in our last issue.

At a large and respectable meeting of the people of Pettis county held in Georgetown, Mo. on this (Wednesday) day, June 15th. On motion, Amos Fristoe was called to the Chair, and Samuel A. Lowe appointed Secretary. The Chairman having stated the object of the meeting, on motion, of Judge Forbes, the address of the Boone County Agricultural Meeting was read by Dr. R. R. Spedden.

Mr. Abbott of St. Louis (Editor of Valley Farmer) being present, was called on and addressed the meeting on the subject of Agriculture, after which Judge Forbes offered the following resolutions which were unanimously adopted.

1st. *Resolved*, That this society be known by the name of the Pettis County Agricultural and Mechanical Association.

2nd. *Resolved*, That a Committee of five consisting of Richard Gentry, Jas. R. Hammond, A. M. Forbes, H. M. Ruby, and R. R. Spedden be appointed to draft a constitution for said Society, and report the same to the meeting to be held in Georgetown on the 1st Tuesday in August next.

3d. *Resolved*, That two persons from each township be appointed to solicit subscribers and report the same to the meeting on the 1st Tuesday in August next.

4th. *Resolved*, That the payment of Three Dollars be the amount necessary to constitute a member for one year.

The following gentlemen were appointed by the Chair to carry out the measure embraced in 3d. Resolution: J. S. Jones and W. L. Major, Heath's Creek; Absalom Williams and E. R. Arnold, Black Water; S. A. Powell and M. B. Pemberton, Elk Fork; Thos. Owen and N. A. Parberry, Washington; J. E. Crawford and J. R. Major, Flat Creek; C. S. Bohannon and John Tyler, Bowling Green; Wm. Gentry and E. C. Bouldin of Mount Sterling.

After which the meeting adjourned to meet again in Georgetown, on the 1st Tuesday in August next.

A. FRISTOE, President.

SAM. A. LOWE, Secretary.

**A NICE FIELD OF BARLEY.**—A correspondent of the *San Joaquin Republican*, California, writes from Fort Miller, Mariposa county, that Major Miller was about to commence gather-



ing one of the most plentiful crops of barley—of between 200 and 250 acres—ever seen in California. On this occasion he calls in the males of five tribes, making a perfect Waterloo army of reapers; his vegetables of all kinds are plentiful. The Major is doing much to civilize the Indians.—*N. E. Farmer.*

☞ We never anticipate that friend Abbott of the *Valley Farmer* would disturb a man's privacy, and laugh at his desolation. We caution all bachelors to avoid him in future.—*Boonville Observer.*

No, sir! we didn't laugh nary time. We felt too bad for laughing.

**BALKING OF HORSES.**—We have always looked upon the habit of balking of horses as incurable. We have seen it lately stated that the Mexicans overcome this propensity by the following kind treatment:

The driver approaches the head of the horse pats him gently on the head and neck, speaking soothingly all the while; after a few minutes the horse's sulky humor somewhat subsides, the driver commences to blow very gently up the horse's nostrils, which he continues to do for a few minutes, then soothes and pats him again, and repeats the blowing up the nostrils, when the animal will be found to have been subdued. This is the plan also stated by Catlin, that the Buffalo calves are tamed by the Indians: whether it will prove successful in conquering this radical fault in the horse, we know not. It may, however, be worth a trial.

So far as our experience goes, kindness is one of the best correctives of bad habits, either in man or beast, and it may be that the gentle treatment indicated above may be efficacious.—*American Farmer.*

**TRIAL OF REAPING AND MOWING MACHINES.**—We give this month the report of the Judges at the trial of Reaping and Mowing Machines held at Springfield Ohio, July 1st. We see it stated that Mr. McCormick is very much dissatisfied with the report of the judges—alleging partiality, &c. There was to be an exhibition a few days ago before the N. Y. State Agricultural Society, of reapers, mowers, threshing and other agricultural machines, at which we presume Mr. McCormick again entered the lists.

We are assured that so far as the experience of the farmers in this vicinity is concerned, there are several machines manufactured in Illinois which are superior to those which took the premiums. They were not entered at the trial, but wherever they have been used, they

have been pronounced superior. There are several of Ketchum's machines in this county, but their operation here has by no means developed such good qualities as the report of the Ohio judges awards them.

## REPORT

*Of the Committee on Reaping and Mowing Machines, at the trial at Springfield, Ohio, June 30, and July 1st and 2d, 1852.*

TO THE OHIO STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE:

The committee being desirous of managing this trial of machines in such manner as would most fully accord with the views of the exhibitors, as well as subserve the interests of the public, invitation was given for the manufacturers and exhibitors of the machines to meet with the committee, at the Anthony Hotel in Springfield, on the evening preceding the first day's trial; at which meeting a free interchange of opinions was had, and suggestions were made by various exhibitors in regard to the rules adopted by the committee, and the best mode of conducting the trial. The utmost good feeling was manifested, and the committee expressed a willingness to comply with the wishes of the exhibitors in regard thereto, as far as their wishes had been expressed, and when not in conflict with the rule as published.

A call was then made for entries of the machines to be tried, and the following is the list:

1. Palmer & Williams' Self-raker—Brookport, N. Y.
2. C. H. McCormick, Reaper and Mower, combined and attached, Chicago, Ill.
3. A. J. Purviance, attach and detach Reaper and Mower, Warrenton, Jeff. co., O.
4. Hussey's Improved Reaper, by Minturn, Allen & Co., Urbana, O.
5. Hussey's Improved Mower, by do.
6. Haines' Illinois Harvester, Pekin, Ill.
7. New York Reaper, by Seymour, Morgan & Co., Brookport, N. Y.
8. Densmore's Self-raker, by Warder & Brokaw, Springfield, O.
9. S. P. Castle's Mowing machine, Urbana, Ohio.
10. A. J. Cook's Reaper and Mower, by Hatch, Whitely & Co., Springfield, O.
11. B. Smith's Grain and Grass Cutter, Batavia, Ill.
12. Ketchum's Mowing machine, by Howard & Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

The first day's trial of Reapers, was on the farm of Dr. J. A. Warder, about 2 miles north east of Springfield. The field was mostly level and free from obstructions, excepting a few apple trees. The wheat was of fair average growth and yield, stood up well, and was rather green for harvesting.

All the machines were tried, as many rounds each as the time would allow, and with the

exception of two or three which were somewhat imperfectly constructed, or not properly adjusted for the work, all performed the work well. The day was fine, and a large concourse of spectators was present and manifested much interest in the exhibition. Indeed so eager was the crowd to witness the performance of each machine, that it was at times difficult for the committee to obtain a fair comparison of their respective work.

After a day spent in the trial of Mowing machines, the trial of Reapers was resumed on the farm of Mr. Foster, on the National road, one mile south east of the former field. The ground here was more rolling, with some stones and stumps; the grain well ripened, and some parts considerably tangled and lodged, thus affording opportunity to test the working of the machines under adverse circumstances.

No. 1. *Palmer & Williams' Self-Raker*, the committee regard as perhaps destined to be of value. It has a reel in front similar to McCormick's, and is designed to rake off on the side. The raker attachment is a very ingenious contrivance, and may succeed well, but it has not been thoroughly tested as yet, and owing to the defective construction and breakage of one or two small parts, it did not work satisfactorily.

No. 2. *McCormick's Reaper* was repeatedly tried in both fields, and when the raking was done by very expert hands, it performed the work well; but still in comparison with several others, the committee thought this machine did not quite maintain its world-renowned reputation. It cuts the grain very well, a good wide swath (5 feet), but it requires more strength of team than most others—3 or 4 horses in stout grain—and much skill and hard labor on the part of the raker, who rides backwards on the machine, working in a straining position. The gavels are deposited on the side, so as to leave the track clear for the next round of the team. The machine is durably constructed, as was shown by running unexpectedly against a stump when at full working speed, without sustaining any damage.

There may be an objection to the working of McCormick's machine in the great *side draft* upon the wheel horses, which can only be remedied by additional force attached to the end of the tongue.

No. 3. *Purviance's Reaper* also performs the cutting part admirably, and its mechanical construction is of the best character. It has a reel forward, and the raker sits sideways on the machine and deposits the grain behind in the same manner as Hussey's, which may be urged as an objection, as the grain must be taken up before the machine can make a second round. Indeed the machine very nearly resembles Hussey's, with the exception of the reel. It is also rather too hard work for

one pair of horses—resembling in this respect both Hussey's and McCormick's.

No. 4. *Hussey's Improved Reaper*, by its simplicity of construction (being destitute of reel, &c.), and its evident durability, impresses the committee, as it does all spectators, quite favorably. It also performs the work in a very satisfactory manner in most situations. The absence of a reel to bend the grain on the knives renders it somewhat difficult to cut with the wind, or in slanting grain, unless it leans towards the machine. It also requires rather greater speed of the team than is usual for farm horses, or than is necessary for machines with reels. On the other hand, it is objected to the reel, that in fully ripe grain it may cause a little waste by shelling when driven fast. Hussey's machine is also partially liable to the objection of *side draft* upon the team. Its width of swath is 5 feet; selling price \$115.

No. 6. *Haines' Illinois Harvester* differs essentially from all the others. The horses work behind, propelling the machine before them, and it is designed only to cut off the heads of grain, with 12 to 18 inches of the straw, which is carried by a revolving apron up on to a wagon having a large rack or frame which is driven along by the side of the machine for the purpose, and when filled is taken to a barn or rick to be emptied, and another takes its place. The machine is quite ingeniously constructed and works very well, only it is too large and cumbersome, and requires too many hands and horses for Ohio farms, however well it may answer on the broad prairies of the west. This machine can be worked so as to cut nearly as low as others, and rake the grain off at the side for binding, but it still is difficult to guide and manage, and requires a man to steer, besides the driver and raker.—As a curious specimen of prairie farming machinery, it afforded much interest to spectators. Its width of swath is 8 feet; price is \$230.

No. 7. *Seymour & Morgan's New York Reaper* was much admired for its lightness of draught, and quiet easy running; while it also performed good work. The gearing of this machine differs somewhat from all the others, and is believed to be a decided improvement, securing lightness of draught with less noise and friction. The position of the knives, also, being on a line with the driving wheel give the machine advantage when crossing furrows or other inequalities of surface. The raker is stationed on the rear of the platform facing his work, and shoves off the gavels on the side; but like others of this kind, it was difficult for the raker to avoid scattering the grain, and is heavy and tangled wheat the machine occasionally choked. With a little further improvement this will be found a first-class

machine. Its width of swath is 5 feet; price is \$120.

No. 8. *Densmore's Self-Raker*, like several others, does the cutting part in first-rate style, and in addition rakes off the grain in a very satisfactory manner on the side, thus dispensing with the labor of one man, and thereby having superiority over all the machines. The raker attachment of this machine is a very ingenious and effective yet simple contrivance, and does not seem liable to get out of order. It may be objected that this and other self-raking machines cannot deposit the grain in handsome gabels where it is tangled or lodged; but in the opinion of the committee, this machine does the raking in all conditions of grain as well or better than is done by hand with the other machines raking off at the side. In its mechanical construction, ease of draught, &c., this compares favorably with the other machines. Its width of swath is 5 feet 10 inches; selling price is \$140.

No. 10. *A. J. Cook's Reaper* does the cutting well, and is designed for a self raker, but owing to a want of sufficient experience with its use, or of mechanical skill on the part of its inventor, it does not do the raking in a proper manner. The committee, however, are of the opinion that it can be made an excellent machine. The raker is combined with the reel which bends on the grain, and is quite a simple and ingenious invention. It is commonly made to rake off behind, but is also designed to deliver on the side, by the attachment of a revolving apron. This, however, was not done in the presence of the committee. It is sold at \$100 to \$120.

No. 11. *B. Smith's Reaper*, like the other from Illinois, is something of a novelty. The forward part of the machine is attached to the forewheels of a common farm wagon. In other respects it does not differ very materially from other machines. The raker stands on the back part of the platform and rakes off at the side. Where the grain stood well, and with careful driving, it did pretty fair work.

#### MOWING MACHINES.

No. 2. *McCormick's Mowing Machine* is the same as his reaper, only changed by removing the platform and setting it to run closer to the ground. For some reason not explained to the committee, it did not work satisfactorily at this trial, frequently requiring the weight of one or two men on the machine to keep the knives close enough to the ground.

No. 3. *Purviance's Mower* is also of the combined or convertible kind, being only his Reaper with the platform removed, and the running parts placed nearer the ground. These alterations are very easily made with this machine, and it worked quite fairly as a mower; still was not as good as the machines constructed

only for mowing, and the committee do not feel warranted in recommending a premium for 'combination' machines, as in their opinion no machine will do both kinds of work so perfectly as those made expressly for each. They would suggest that where a farmer does not feel able to buy both a Reaping and Mowing machine, that he should unite with a neighbor, and one buy a Reaper and the other a Mower.

*Smith's (Illinois) Mower* was also of the combination kind. It came into the field too late to have a fair trial, and was imperfectly adjusted in some of its parts, so that it failed to do good work.

No. 5. *Hussey's Mower*, like his Reaper, is quite simple in its construction, and consequently not liable to get out of order. It did its work well, and like the Reaper, requires a team of three or four horses.

No. 9. *Castle's Mower* is a very creditable machine—quite new, as yet, and needing some improvement in the way of securing greater strength and durability. It has a reel to bend on the grass, cuts very smooth and clean, and is of light draft. It cuts with two series of knives attached to a crank, working like shears. The committee, without further experiment, have some doubts as to the successful operation of this form of knives, when they become a little dull.

No. 12. *Ketchum's Mowing Machine*, though named last, was the first to enter the field, and its performance, as a whole, was no quite equalled by any of its competitors. It is also the most simple and durable in its construction, and quite easy of draught, requiring a team of two ordinary horses. Its cost is \$110.

**SIDE DRAFT.** The position of the driving wheel upon Densmore's and Seymour & Morgan's Reaping, and Ketchum's Mowing machines, is such as to balance the resistance; and under ordinary circumstances, obviate the inconvenience of side draft, even when driven with a single team.

#### RULES FOR JUDGING OF THE COMPARATIVE MERITS OF THE DIFFERENT MACHINES.

The committee, according to previous advertisement, were governed by the following rules in making their awards, and deciding upon the comparative merits of the several machines, viz:

1. Which machine cuts the grain or grass in the best manner.
2. Which does most work in a given time.
3. Which leaves the grain in the best order for binding.
4. Which causes the least waste.
5. Which is the best adapted for uneven surface.
6. Which is the least liable to get out of repair.
7. Which is the least cost.

8. Which requires the least power to drive the machine.

9. Which requires the least manual labor.

10. Which is the best adapted for stony or stumpy ground.

Whichever of the machines so tried, has, combined, the greatest number of the above qualifications, in the opinion of the majority of the committee, to be pronounced the best machine.

The committee in deciding upon the above qualifications, as found in the several machines took a vote upon each rule separately, to see which of the machines was first or best in regard to that point; and if several were thought to be alike good, they were so set down. In these decisions, the votes of the committee were unanimous.

#### COMPARISON OF REAPING MACHINES.

Rule 1. *Which machine cuts the grain in the best manner*—Hussey's, Densmore's, Seymour & Morgan's, McCormick's, Purviance's: all nearly or quite equal.

2. *Which does the most work in a given time*—McCormick's, Densmore's, Purviance's. Others that cut a little narrower swath were regarded as nearly if not quite equal under this head, owing to their greater speed.

3. *Which leaves the grain in the best order for binding*—Densmore's, Purviance's, Hussey's.

4. *Which causes the least waste*—Hussey's, Purviance's, Densmore's.

5. *Which is the best adapted for uneven surface*—Seymour & Morgan's; but those above named very near as good.

6. *Which is the least liable to get out of order*—Hussey's, with Seymour & Morgan's next.

7. *Which is the least cost*—Hussey's.

8. *Which requires the least power to drive the machine*—Seymour & Morgan's, and Densmore's.

9. *Which requires the least manual labor*—Densmore's.

10. *Which is the best adapted for stony or stumpy ground*—Hussey's, McCormick's, Purviance's, Seymour & Morgan's, Densmore's; alike.

PREMIUMS.—The committee recommend that the State Board award a Gold Medal, as first premium, for Densmore's Reaping Machine, by Warder & Brokaw, Springfield, O.; and a Silver Medal, as second premium, for Hussey's Improved Reaping Machine, by Minturn, Allen & Co., Urbana, O.

#### COMPARISON OF MOWING MACHINES.

Rule 1. *Which machine cuts the grass in the best manner*—Ketchum's, and Castle's.

2. *Which does the most work in a given time*—Ketchum's, and Hussey's.

5. *Which is the best adapted for uneven surface*—Ketchum's.

6. *Which is the least liable to get out of repair*—Ketchum's and Hussey's.

8. *Which requires the least power to drive the machine*—Castle's.

9. *Which requires the least manual labor*—Ketchum's and Castle's.

10. *Which is the best adapted for stony or stumpy ground*—Ketchum's and Hussey's.

PREMIUMS. The committee recommend that the Board award a Gold Medal, as first premium, for Ketchum's Mowing Machine, by Howard & Co., Buffalo, N. Y.; and a Silver Medal as second premium, for Hussey's Machine.

The committee feel that there is much credit due the officers of the Clark and Madison Agricultural Society, for their prompt and efficient aid in making the necessary preparation for the trial of Reapers and Mowers at Springfield; and also to certain individuals for furnishing grain to try the experiment upon, and horses to work the machines, and for their constant attention to the wants of the committee, the exhibitors, and spectators throughout; and further, to the marshal, assistant marshal, and police, for their efforts to preserve order and give all an opportunity to see and be satisfied.

The operation of Haying and Harvesting machines was comparatively new to a large portion of those in attendance, and a portion of the committee had previously enjoyed only limited opportunities for observing the practical working of most of the principles involved. All were very strongly impressed with the importance of such labor saving machinery in agriculture, thus enabling the farmer to secure a large crop, at the right time, with unprecedented dispatch, and also with less waste than usually attends the ordinary manual labor methods.

The committee have full confidence in recommending these machines to the farmers of Ohio, believing that their use in the harvest field will give general satisfaction, and lead to improved modes of husbandry, alike economical and profitable. They would also urge upon manufacturers the great importance of so thoroughly constructing their implements as to obviate complaint, for which too frequent cause is given, of breakage or derangement of working parts, by which much time is lost in repairs, and the credit of the machine not a little damaged. The timber should be chosen of the most durable kind, the smaller irons should be carefully wrought, not cast, and the general workmanship of a good and substantial finish.

J. T. PUGSLEY, Convenience, Fayette co.

A. WADDLE, South Charleston, Clark co.

WM. HUNT, Urbana Campaign co.

JOHN KEILER, Bell Brook, Green co.

DAN'L McLEAN, Washington, C. H. Fay, co

JOHN S. HALL, Columbus.



## THE FAMILY CIRCLE.

Conducted by  
Mrs. MARY ABBOTT.

### Fault Finding.

Parents, do not indulge in a spirit of fault-finding. By this means children are rendered cross and fractious, ill-tempered to each other and care for nothing. Better not notice every little trifle that a child does than to be constantly finding fault. How often is an over-nice, old-maidish mother rendered miserable herself, and her children truly unhappy, by her noticing every chair that is out of place or every spot of dirt on the child's dress; children are often as severely punished for moving a chair, stool, or table out of order, or soiling a dress, as if they had wickedly or maliciously broken the ten commandments. We admire order and neatness, but for our part we had rather our little ones would make a horse of every trunk in the house, railroad car of the sofa, steamboats of every chair and table, and in fact turn the house upside-down, than to be constantly scolding and finding fault. It injures both mother and children. It renders the mother prematurely old. A smile is seldom seen on her face, except a forced smile for company. The children are fretful and unhappy. We do not believe it necessary to have every thing out of order, or to have a 'Bedlam' made of the house, as we have heard some mothers say.

Make the happiness of your children of importance enough to let them have a place for their playthings. If you cannot let them have a room to play in, let them play in your own room. All children love 'mother's room.' Let them turn the trunks into horses, or play 'railroad,' or 'steamboat,' or 'keep house.' This is done in our room every day without troubling us in the least. When they have played a reasonable time, require them to put every thing in order again. By this means you gain three important results—make your children happy, industrious, and orderly, and save yourself the trouble of constantly watching and fretting for fear they may misplace things. Do not be constantly looking at trifles in your children; but carefully—carefully

—watch their moral characters. But 'forbearing threatening' 'endeavor to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.'

### Responsibility of Teachers.

We commend the following extract of an address delivered before the American Institute of instruction at Keene, N. H., by Gen. H. K. Oliver, to the attention of every one.—Though addressed to Teachers of our Common Schools, the sentiment may suggest reflections which may not be altogether unprofitable to others:

'You have no right, I say, to be untrue, unjust, dishonest, idle, irreligious. I will suppose that you are intrusted with the care and the education of my child,—*of my child!*—and what association does not that word awaken in every parent's bosom! At this moment of speaking, my thoughts fly over yonder hills, to the homestead, wherein my children dwell. I see them all,—yes, all!—her, from whose dimmed eyes, God hath, in His own good pleasure, withheld the matchless blessings of perfect vision, and over whose sight will soon close the darkest pall of

'Total eclipse,—no sun, no moon,  
All dark, amid the blaze of noon!'

and all the rest, for whom the light of Heaven irradiates rich scenes of joy and of gladness, in all the glorious beauty of their colors, and in all the exquisite harmony of their blending together. Clustered are they about my hearth and still more closely twined around my heart. 'God do so to me, and more also,' if I forget or neglect the unspeakable, the awful responsibility, that abides upon me as their parent!

And as thousands of parents have done and must do, each child has been intrusted to the care and training of others, to be prepared for duty and for happiness; yet not for this world alone, whose period is but a drop in the great ocean of time,—whose duties are transitory and evanescent; not for this world alone! but for that other, yet to come, whose years are beyond the measure of all computing; whose joys, no mines of countless gold, no mountain heaps of glittering diamonds, no holocaust of multitudinous sacrifice can purchase,—yet all within the good man's grasp! And as I say to their teacher, so may the yearning heart of each parent say, in like case to you:—You have no right to be untrue, unjust, immoral, an idler, and irreligious! Remember,—remember! as you train my child, you are influencing its destiny for more than this world's time. There is something far beyond infinitely grander, immeasurably more enduring, inconceivably vaster, which shall begin its endless duration, when time shall be swallowed up in Eternity; when earth's wide sur-

face shall be whitened with the bones of those, whom there shall be no survivors to bury; when

'All worldly shapes shall melt in gloom,  
The sun himself shall die,—  
And when this mortal shall assume  
Its immortality;—  
Tis when the last of human mould  
Shall all Creation's death behold,  
As Adam saw its prime!

See to it, that you jeopard not the eternal bliss of my child! See to it, that no thought, no look, no word, no act of yours, imperil the safety of this unlying soul! If you harm it, if you make it a castaway from happiness and from heaven, then, when you, and I, and the child, stand up for judgment at the bar of God, I will demand justice for the wrong: and I justice shall be meted out, for God is neither untrue nor unjust! See to it that you fail not in all these duties!

**CRYSTAL ORNAMENTS.**—Take one ounce each of alum, of Epsom salts, of white, of blue, and of green vitriol, of Globular salts, and of sulphate of potash; after they are well crushed, mix together these seven salts and dissolve them in a little boiling water as can be used to perfectly melt them, which is about a pint; now place the mixture in a warm situation where it cannot be affected by dust or where it will not be agitated. After due evaporation has taken place, the whole will begin to shoot into crystals. Their color and peculiar form of crystallization will distinguish each crystal separately, and the whole will form a beautiful and pleasing object, which, when intended for preservation, should be placed under a glass shade. Any druggist will supply the materials for this experiment for about a shilling.

### What is Happiness?

Every thinking man will look round him when he reflects on his situation in this world, and will ask, 'What will meet my case? What is it that I want? What will satisfy? I look at the *rich*—and I see Ahab, in the midst of all his riches, sick at heart for a garden of herbs! I see Dives, after all his wealth, lifting up his eyes in hell, and begging for a drop of water to cool the rage of his sufferings!—I see the rich fool summoned away in the very moment when he was exulting in his hoards! If I look at the *wise*—I see Solomon in all his wisdom, acting like a fool; and I know, if I possessed all his wisdom, were I left to myself, I should act as he did. I see Ahithophel, with all his policy, hanging himself for vexation! If I turn to men of *pleasure*—I see that the very sum of all pleasure is, that it is Satan's bed into which he casts his slaves! I see Esau

selling his birthright for a mess of pottage! I see Solomon, after all his enjoyments, leaving his name a scandal to the church to the latest age! If I think of *honor*—take a walk in Westminster Abbey—there is an end to all inquiry. There I walk among the mighty dead! There I see the winding up of human glory! And what remains of the greatest men of my country! A boasting epitaph! None of these things can satisfy me! I must meet death—I must meet judgment—I must meet God—I must meet eternity!—*Cecil*.

**DOMESTIC ENDEARMENTS.**—I hold it, indeed, to be a sure sign of a mind not poised as it ought to be, if it be insensible to the pleasures of home, to the little joys and endearments of a family, to the affection of relatives, to the fidelity of domestics. Next to being well with his own conscience, the friendship and attachment of a man's family and dependents seems to be one of the most comfortable circumstances of his lot. His situation, with regard to either, forms that sort of bosom comfort or disquiet that sticks to him at all times and seasons and which, though he may now and then forget it amidst the bustle of public, or hurry of active life will resume its place in his thoughts, and it is permanent in its effects on his happiness, at every pause of ambition or of business.—*Horne*.

**THE CHEMICAL BAROMETER.**—Take a long narrow bottle, such as an old fashioned Eue de Colonge bottle, and put into it two and a half drachms of camphor, and 11 drachms of spirits of wine; when the camphor is dissolved, which it will readily do by slight agitation, add the following mixture:—Take water, nine drachms; titrate of potash (salt petre.) thirty-eight grains. Dissolve these salts in the water prior to mixing with the camphorated spirit; then shake the whole well together. Cork the bottle well, and wax the top, but afterwards make a very small aperture in the cork with a red hot needle. The bottle may then be hung up, or placed in any stationary position. By observing the different appearance which the materials assume, as the weather changes, it becomes an excellent prognosticator of a coming storm, or of a sunny sky.

**ADVERSITY.**—He that has never known adversity is but half acquainted with others or with himself. Constant success shows us but one side of the world. For as it surrounds us with friends who will tell us only our merits, so it silences those enemies from whom alone we can learn our defects.

**THE MIND.**—The mind, in proportion as it is expanded, exposes a large surface for impression.

From the Rural New Yorker.

### Uncle Jacob's Mistake.

BY A FARMER'S WIFE.

In a country town in New England, lived Uncle Jacob, as he was called, who was as good a specimen of the honest, rigid, and unyielding farmers of his day, as could be found in a week's journey. He was a hard-working, industrious man, who thought all knowledge, particularly of farming, descended to him from his father, with the broad acres, that he would have thought it sacrilegious to cultivate in any but the 'good old way,' and he would have thought it equally sinful to have swerved from the way in which he was brought up, in the management of his boys. Yet, occasionally a gleam of tenderness would shine in the eyes of Uncle Jacob, though any expression of it would have made him ashamed to hold up his head among his neighbors.

Edward and Joseph, the only children of Uncle Jacob, were fine, intelligent lads, with so little difference in size, that they were generally taken for twins, though that was not the fact. Their father took no little pride in the achievements of these boys in the hoeing and haying fields; and, as some reward for their faithfulness, and an incentive to renewed efforts, when his favorite cow produced male twin calves, he gave them to the boys to train up as their own. Had they received a deed of gift, of half the township, it would not been an affair of any more importance in their minds.

Being something of a pet with Aunt Mary, I often spent weeks together with her, and felt almost as much interested in the affair as did the boys themselves; and never shall I forget the whispered conference we held in the corner that night in regard to the 'breaking the steers,' and the rides I was to have on the sled to be drawn by them, the next winter. Then the story-books were to be consulted to find names for the calves; and this duty was delegated to me, as the boys had not much time. But our story-books gave us no names at all appropriate, excepting Valentine and Orson; these we did not like,—so we decided on the names of *Star* and *Beauty*, in which appellations the white steers were henceforth to rejoice.

I mention the circumstances thus minutely to show what importance is attached in the minds of children, to matters that appear trifling to the minds of mature persons. A bargain, condition, or promise, made with, or to a child should be considered as sacred as a compact between man and man; in fact a greater mischief sometimes accrues from a broken engagement with a child than with an adult,—as will be obvious from the following, and numerous other facts.

From the time the boys called the calves *their own*, they commenced with them a course

of training that made them tractable and obedient to the little masters; yet an angry word was never spoken to them, nor did they ever feel the lash of the whip, or the cruel stab of the *goad-stick*, that execrable instrument of torture, too often put into the hands of passionate boys, and hardened men. Edward, who was mild and thoughtful, would never suffer the impetuous and passionate Joseph to wreck the effects of his fiery temper on their pets. When autumn arrived the farm work allowed them no spare time, excepting evenings, which were generally devoted to reading, and Edward was particularly happy when their evenings could be so spent.

The question arose how they should procure a yoke and sled for their miniature oxen. In a short time the snows would begin to fall, and they would have time to work their team. After consulting Aunt Mary, as was the custom on all perplexing occasions, they ventured to ask Uncle Jacob if he would make a suitable sled for them, if they would buy a yoke; this he agreed to do. Now I will tell you, my young friends, how these boys earned one dollar and a half, which doubtless appears to you a very small sum, but which to them was of great importance. At that time the braiding of straw for bonnets, constituted the most universal employment of women and children. Aunt Mary prepared the straw for them, and they plaited sixty yards with their stiffened fingers, by the light of the fire in the long evenings. I cannot say that the braid did not increase a yard or two, occasionally, in their absence, if their mother was not too busy about other matters. The braid was disposed of to a neighboring 'store-keeper,' with the amount of which they paid a man for making a yoke.

How did their hearts leap at the first fall of snow in that late autumn, and how proud was Uncle Jacob to see his 'twin boys,' as he called them, yoking their docile calves of nine months old to the tiny sled! When *Star* and *Beauty* became accustomed to their new yoke, the boys would take excursions into the woods, and load their sled with dry and broken limbs of trees for Aunt Mary to heat her oven. Good, kind mother that she was, her boys thought nothing they could do, would ever repay her for the innocent stratagems she employed for their reasonable indulgence; besides, Uncle Jacob did not always consider that dry wood was an indispensable article in household economy.

As a special favor, New Years was to be a holiday, and I was invited to take my first, long promised ride. I was accordingly provided with mittens and a home-spun blanket, and was seated on the sled by Joseph, who performed the agreeable, walking by the side of the sled, while the more bashful Edward led and drove *Star* and *Beauty*. Never did Queen in gilded chariot, enjoy the homage of her sub-

jects as she passed along, better than I did the delighted gaze of my school-mates as we passed the houses on the 'turnpike,' between Uncle Jacob's and the 'white store.'

That was a memorable day to those boys. Little did we think, in the innocence of our young hearts that any man *could* covet his neighbor's goods, though we had all learned the commandment forbidding that feeling. From the day 'Squire Field' saw us pass, he determined to buy those steers for his only son, Benjamin—who for boyish reasons of their own, was the special detestation of Edward and Joseph. Squire Field was one of those characters often found in country places, years ago, who united the occupations of lawyer and farmer, and was considered a great man.

Spring came, and on the occasion of Squire Field's customary evening visits, he cautiously broached the subject of purchasing the twin steers. As soon as he had gone and Uncle Jacob was out of hearing—"Well," exclaimed the excitable Joseph, 'if father does sell Star and Bute, I know what I will do; I'll run away, I won't stay here!'

'I won't say that,' rejoined the quiet Edward. 'In the first place, I don't believe father will sell *our property*, but if I tho't he would do it, I should rather see them die than that Ben Field should have them,—it don't seem to me I *could* bear that?'

'Well, boys, don't worry about it now, but go to bed,' said Aunt Mary. 'I don't think he will sell them; if I can get a chance, I will talk with him about it, tho' he ain't apt to think women folks know much about such matters.'

Late was it that night when those boys slept, and when they did so their slumbers were none of the soundest. Joseph, who was something of a 'sleep-walker,' arose that night and had opened the door, when his mother awoke and asked him where he was going. He said he 'was going to kill Star and Bute, so Ben Field should not have them.' She awoke him and sent him again to bed.

Another and another tempting offer was made, till Uncle Joseph yielded, reluctantly, it is true, but he did yield, in spite of the entreaties and tears of the boys, and the remonstrances of Aunt Mary, who was excited to an unprecedented degree, for she was heard to say very emphatically, 'Jacob Morgan, if you sell the steers, you will never prosper, and you will repent the act till the day of your death.' She knew the boys better than he did. But Uncle Jacob was never guilty of such a weakness as yielding to his wife or children when money was the object to be gained by opposition. He had not yet learned to wisdom of the maxim, 'Begin nothing of which thou hast not well considered the end.'

I will not attempt to record to mutterings and resolves of those injured boys. In vain did their father offer them his note for the money he received. They indignantly refused any overtures, when he began to feel secret misgivings, as to the *policy* of his proceeding. From that time all interest in the farm ceased, with Edward and Joseph; their work was performed mechanically; a deadly hate was engrafted on personal dislike towards Squire Field and his son; a host of unkind feelings and passions were excited and fostered, in brooding over the injury inflicted on them by their father, who, to do him justice, believed the money was of more importance to them than the possession the steers. The next summer when they rejoiced that Beauty was struck by lightning, that rejoicing was only the legitimate consequence of their first trial. The father's mistake in the premises, was in part owing to his having forgotten that he was one a child, and consequently being unable to sympathise with, and appreciate the dispositions of children.

In another year Aunt Mary was laid in a quiet nook in the corner of the farm, and henceforth that six feet of earth constituted the only attraction to the two boys, of that extensive farm. Uncle Jacob mourned sincerely for his 'better half,'—which he manifested, by filling her place at his fire-side as soon as decency permitted!

As time passed, Edward became more fully determined to leave the farm; and his father finally consented, and procured him the situation of clerk to a store-keeper in a neighboring town, when he had arrived at the age of sixteen years. Joseph grew more and more restless after Edward left home, but his father could not consent to his going; he could not spare him,—besides, he was too young to leave home.

Uncle Jacob awoke one morning to find Joseph's room empty, its inmate gone, none knew whither. The father, in his sternness, refused to seek him,—saying, 'in a few days he will be glad to come home.' But that time never came. About five years after he left, some of the neighbors saw a man dressed in sailors' clothes, standing in the light of the moon, near the spot where Aunt Mary was buried, whom they thought might be Joseph. Be that as it may, he was never seen there afterwards; and whether he is yet alive, or sleeping in 'ocean's bed,' is alike unknown.

Edward gained the confidence of his employers, and gave promise of useful and respectable manhood. But, alas! accustomed to no confidences with his elders, and naturally shy, he asked the counsel of none. At the age of nineteen he contracted an imprudent marriage, (what marriage at that age could be otherwise?) with an orphan girl of sixteen. With no habits of economy, a small salary, and



fast increasing family, the wife's property was soon spent, and they were reduced to poverty. True, his father helped him occasionally, but his own affairs were pressing so much pressed, he could scarcely help himself; Edward was therefore left to struggle on as best he might. At the early age of forty years he was borne to his grave, having survived his wife and five children. After his death there was found in his pocket-book, the following lines in pencil, having been written but a few days.

Pain would I rest my weary head,  
Beneath the verdant sod;  
My spirit longs to join the throng,  
Before the throne of God.  
If we sweet to break the mortal coil  
That binds us down to grief and toil.

In the decline of life, misfortunes clustered around Uncle Jacob. His farm was sold to pay the debts of a brother-in-law for whom he became surety to a large amount. The old man's race is nearly run; for score winters have shed their snows on his brow, and dimmed his eye, which will yet kindle as he earnestly talks to fathers about the 'great mistake of his life,' as he always calls the selling of the twin steers. Boys love to talk with him, and listen to his kind advice, for he is one of those to whom age and adversity has brought wisdom and tenderness. Whenever he sees two brothers of the ages that his boys were when they 'hauled' oven wood for their mother, with Star and Beauty, he will pass his bronzed hand across his eyes and sigh, 'Such were my poor boys, Edward and Joseph.'

From the St. Louis Live Hens.

### ST. LOUIS LIVE STOCK MARKET.

**BEEF CATTLE**—The supply in the cattle yards for some days past is quite limited. There is no demand for the Southern market. The present supply is barely sufficient for the city butchers. Prices as recently to former quotation—say from \$4 50 to \$5 a hundred for the best; second quality a shade less.

**SHEEP**—Prices are firm at previous rates, from \$1 to \$2-25 a head, with a limited supply in the yards.

**LAMBS**—The quantity brought in is barely sufficient for the daily consumption. The best fatted lambs are taken quickly at \$1 and \$1 25 a head.

**CALVES**—Good calves are very scarce. City butchers promptly pay from \$2 25 to \$3 a head. The supply is quite limited at present.

**HOGS**—The demand for good hogs has increased within a few days, in consequence of the small supply in market. Prices firm at from \$1 75 to \$5 75 a hundred, which shows an advance in rates.

**COWS WITH CALVES**—The supply in the cow yards is quite indifferent. There will probably be no improvement numbers and quality during the warm weather.

**NEW ORLEANS STOCK MARKET, July 15.**—Beef cattle, (western) rough to fine, 6 1-2 cents per lb. net; Lake and Texas 5 to 4 do. Hogs 7 cts. per lb. net. Sheep \$2 75 a \$3 50 per head. Calves and yearlings \$6 to \$9 per head. Milch cows \$25 to \$50 per head.

**FINE STOCK.**—Scarcely a day passes that we do not see fine blooded stock—horses, cattle, sheep or hogs—brought from the older States, and intended for the stock-raising parts of our own State. Within the last six months hundreds of cattle, sheep, &c., of the best breed have been brought from Kentucky and Ohio. This speaks well for the stock-raising spirit of Missouri, and we hope to see more attention paid to the subject.—*St. Louis News.*

### ST. LOUIS MARKET—WHOLESALE.

VALLEY FARMER OFFICE, July 31, 1882.

**HEMP**—per ton, \$15 to \$30. Demand none.  
**FLOUR**—per bbl., country, \$2 50 to \$2 55; city, \$3 50 to \$4 25—Dull.

**WHEAT**—per bushel, 50 to 65 cents. Receipts of new light.

**CORN**—per bushel, 37 to 45 cents.

**OATS**—per bushel, 30 to 33 cents.

**BARLEY**—per bushel, 30 to 35 cents.

**MESS PORK**—per bbl., \$13.50.

**PICKLED HAM**—per c., 8 1-2 cents.

**LARD**—per lb., No. 1, 10 to 10 1-2 cents.

**SUGAR**—per lb., common, 6 to 6 1-4 cents.

**MOLASSES**—per gallon, 20 to 35 cents.

**COFFEE**—per lb., Rio, 9 to 10 cents.

**SALT**—per sack, \$1.20 to \$1.30.

**PIG IRON**—per ton, cold blast, \$24.

**HAY**—per hundred, Timothy, 45 to 55 cents.

**BUTTER AND CHEESE**—Fair country butter, 9 to 10c; good to prime, 14 to 16c; choice Ohio, 18 to 22c. W. R. cheese 7 1-4 to 7 1-2c for prime.

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